MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Approval of Evacuation Plan -- Israel has approved the draft arrangement for the evacuation of all the "terrorists" from Beirut and Lebanon submitted to the Cabinet by U.S. envoy Philip Habib, the Cabinet secretary announced in a 19 August statement broadcast by IDF radio. Noting that the Cabinet approved the agreement in a special session during which further clarifications were received from the Americans, Jerusalem radio said the United States has made it clear that the "terrorists" will release an IDF soldier they kidnapped in Beirut on 18 August along with the Israeli pilot they hold. Earlier, Israel told Habib that the evacuation cannot proceed unless the kidnapped soldier is returned along with the pilot, according to the radio. Israel notified the United States that it takes a "severe view" of cease-fire violations and also transmitted "serious warnings" to Syria to stop the violations perpetrated by the "terrorists" operating under Syria's aegis in eastern Lebanon, the radio said.

Providing details of the evacuation agreement, Jerusalem radio said around 13,000 PLO "terrorists," 5,200 Syrian and affiliated soldiers and 1,000 foreigners will leave Beirut within a 2-week period. The IDF will attempt to photograph all the departing "terrorists," the radio noted.

Lebanese Approval of Plan, Presidential Election Postponement -- The Lebanese Cabinet decided to request the dispatch of multinational forces to Beirut and approved the plan worked out by U.S. envoy Habib on the evacuation of the PLO, Beirut radio reported. In remarks by Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan carried by the radio after the 18 August Cabinet meeting, he asserted that all "obstacles and ambiguities" have been removed and there are no outstanding problems. Al-Wazzan revealed that "E-Day" will be decided within 24 hours and that the entire evacuation process will take 15 days. In a television interview later that evening, reported by Voice of Lebanon radio, Al-Wazzan said the evacuation plan is part of the Lebanese Government's required program that Israeli, Palestinian and Syrian forces all leave Lebanon.

The Chamber of Deputies postponed its presidential election session until 23 August. In an 18 August statement carried by Beirut radio, the Chamber of Deputies Bureau stressed that a minimum level of security around the Chamber of Deputies building had not been achieved and that the postponed election session will be held in the War College. Beirut radio reported that shells were fired in the Mansur Palace area during the evening; Jerusalem radio said the firing was between the Lebanese Army and the "terrorists."

Lebanese Front Military Commander Bashir al-Jumayyil described the postponement as "favorable as long as it preserved Lebanese unity," Voice of Lebanon radio reported; earlier the radio carried a Lebanese Front announcement nominating Al-Jumayyil as candidate for the Presidency. Meanwhile, a meeting of Lebanese Sunni, Shi'ite and Druze leaders decided to boycott the election session until sufficient time is allowed to agree on a common candidate, according to Beirut radio and AFP reports.

Future of PLO Leadership -- Tunisian authorities have agreed to receive PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis, well-informed sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said. However, in a statement to the SANA correspondent in Beirut, reported by Damascus radio, Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Nayif Hawatimah declared that the PLO leadership will be located in Syria, along with its administrative and political infrastructure, because Syria has fought alongside the Palestinians and Damascus has housed the PLO headquarters.

Cease-Fire. Military Situation -- The "terrorists" killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded four more in an ambush east of Beirut and also kidnapped an Israeli soldier near the Burj al-Barajinah camp, according to statements by the IDF spokesman reported by IDF radio and ITIM. The IDF responded to the cease-fire violations in the eastern sector, killing two "terrorists" near 'Ammiq, but did not return fire in the Beirut area. Meanwhile, car-bomb explosions near the Palestine Research Center in west Beirut injured five people, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio. The radio also reported that the Israelis have reinforced their troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley with an armored battalion.

The IDF is holding 296 Syrian prisoners while the Syrians may hold 6 missing Israelis, MA'ARIV reported citing the IDF Manpower Branch chief.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Khaddam-Fahd Talks -- Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Syria after meeting briefly with Saudi King Fahd in At-Ta'if, Damascus television reported. Noting that a Saudi source described the talks as "very important," Monte Carlo radio said topics discussed included the Lebanese presidential elections, the future of the Syrian presence in Lebanon and the resumption of the Arab summit conference. Saudi Arabia stressed that it supports any candidate for the Lebanese Presidency acceptable to the majority of Lebanese and that regardless of who the candidate is, Lebanon must have a strong legal authority to impose its control over Lebanese territory. While the Saudis believe Syria must withdraw from Lebanon if asked to do so by the legitimate Lebanese authorities, Syria believes any withdrawal should be postponed until a unanimous decision is made on the issue at the reconvened Arab summit conference, the radio added. Khaddam told the Saudis that Syria is ready to discuss King Fahd's Middle East peace plan at the summit prior to accepting it.

Al-Qadhdhafi Summit Participation -- The Arab League is contacting Libya in an attempt to persuade Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to participate in the forthcoming Arab summit conference, KUNA reported citing an Arab official in Rabat.

Iran-Iraq War

In a statement carried by Baghdad radio, an Iraqi military spokesman announced that Khark Island oil installations were shelled by Iraq as a "last warning" to foreign oil tankers entering the area and to Iran to stop bombing Iraqi cities. The Iranian Navy commander responded to Iraqi threats by reassuring commercial shipping that the Persian Gulf is guarded by the Iranian Navy and that the Iraqi claims are "empty propaganda," IRNA reported. According to reports cited by Tehran radio, Iranian forces fired on an Iraqi supply column on the Al-Faw-Basra road, killing 70 Iraqis. Meanwhile, an Iranian commander asserted that several areas in Ilam Province are still occupied by Iraqi forces, IRNA reported.

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KUWAITI OFFICIAL: SUMMIT DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

LD181818 Kuwait KUNA in English 1659 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 18 (KUNA) -- Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir said Wednesday that the date for the resumption of the Arab summit had not been officially fixed yet but the Arab foreign ministers would meet in Mohammedia in Morocco August 28 and would announce the date of the summit.

Shaykh Sabah expressed hope that all Arab countries would attend the summit which will be held in critical circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Sabah said Kuwait's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference which will be held in Niger next week would be led by the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ahmad Sa'd al-Jasir.

NAYIF HAWATIMAH CRITICIZES AUTONOMY PLAN, SYRIA

NC181133 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Paris, Aug 18 (AFP) -- Israel's autonomy ideas for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are comparable to South Africa's apartheid policy of homelands for blacks, a Palestinian leader charged today.

The administrative self-determination Israel was willing to concede to West Bank Palestinians was no better than the "status granted by the racist Government of South Africa to 22 million blacks who represent the original population of the country," Nayif Hawatimah said.

Mr. Hawatimah, head of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, in an interview with the left-wing French daily LIBERATION, also opposed Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) association with the Camp David agreement between Israel and Egypt.

The accords gave nothing to the Palestinian people, because 60 percent of all Palestinians lived outside the occupied zones, and because of Israel's limited notion of Palestinian self-determination, he said.

He also criticized Syria for its "tardy and intermittent" participation in the Lebanese war, saying that although in principle Palestinians and Syrians were fighting side by side, in fact "that has not been the case."

Mr. Hawatimah heads a group considered close to Syria within the PLO.

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF DAILY NEWS REPORTS ON FOREIGN WORKERS

GF181303 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 18 Aug 82 pp 8, 9

[Text] The people of the Gulf, now outnumbered by up to four to one following an influx of foreign workers over the past decade, are uneasy about becoming strangers in their own lands. Countries that welcomed expatriate expertise and labour in the heady days after successive oil-price explosions are weighing the long-term political and social risks of having huge foreign communities in their midst.

The rush to the Gulf began in the early 1970s as world oil prices soared. Workers from South Yemen, Egypt and Jordan, who traditionally provided labour to the Gulf states, were joined by hundreds of thousands from Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Philippines and South Korea.

Poverty

Western expatriates -- ranging from American bankers to British engineers -- provided the know-how for vast industrial projects and the new financial centres of the Gulf.

Thousands of foreign oilmen had already paved the way. Diplomats estimate that the foreign work forces soared from 500,000 in the pre-oil boom days to well over 2.5 million in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain. Families bring the total to perhaps four million.

The workers each year send home billions of dollars relieving some of the acute proverty in their own country. Pakistanis, for example, remitted over two billion dollars last year, more than the country received in foreign aid, the World Bank has estimated. An average Pakistani worker who made $800 a year at home can earn $5,000 in the Gulf and save half of that, the bank said in a recent report. But Gulf rulers, looking to the longer term, are becoming anxious for their countries as the divide between locals and visitors becomes wider.

The home countries of the foreigners are concerned that their ablest and most energetic citizens have left to work abroad.

Unskilled

The biggest expatriate community is in Saudi Arabia, which depends heavily on foreigners from Asia, the United States and Europe to carry out its massive economic plan, says there were 1.06 million foreigners in the work force in 1979-80, but diplomats in Jidda estimate there may now be as many as three million compared to about five million Saudis.

The government has been working hard to train Saudis and hopes for only a small increase in the number of foreigners between now and 1985. The diplomats said the kingdom could afford to import labourers for most unskilled jobs like construction work or domestic service.

Foreigners were also likely to remain dominant in skilled professions because the ambition of most young Saudis is to start their own business rather than train in technical skills.

The influx of foreigners has raised fears that Saudi Arabia's strict Islamic traditions may be tainted by foreign habits.

Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah said in a recent press interview: "We are forced to bring in foreign workers because we need them in order to survive.

This has been something of a problem, and it has affected security but not in the sense of leading to crimes. Rather, the influx of great numbers of foreign workers has affected certain habits and traditions."

Minorities

The diplomats said the greatest threat to the Saudi way of life came from high-skilled Westerners who demanded to bring their families and were unwilling to change their life-styles.

The most popular to the Saudis' view were highly-disciplined manual workers from countries like South Korea who came on fixed term contracts, lived on company compounds and had no contact with the Saudis, the diplomats said.

The largest group of foreigners in Saudi Arabia is from neighbouring North and South Yemen, a total of about one million people, according to embassy estimates. Sudanese, Egyptians, Jordanians and Pakistanis are the next biggest minorities and Filipinos as well as Britons and Americans.

The UAE has the highest percentage of foreign workers in the Gulf -- more than 80 percent of the just over one million residents are foreigners from 64 countries. But rising crime in the UAE has led to restrictions on foreign workers and pressure on employers to give priority to UAE nationals, then Arab and only as a last resort to non-Arab foreigners.

Posts

Supreme Council member Shaykh Sultan ibn Mohammad al-Qasimi told a recent seminar in Zash-Shariqah that an increase in crime was due to the structure of UAE society, with most of the visiting workers aged between 25 and 45 and unmarried or living in the UAE without their wives. Details of the foreign community in the UAE are not released, but embassies estimate it includes 100,000 Pakistanis, 250,000 Indians and 30,000 Filipinos.

In Qatar, only 60,000 of the residents are local nationals out of a total population of 223,000. But the government has recently been recruiting Qatari nationals for top posts. Diplomats said the social effects of the foreign community in Qatar were nil --locals and foreigners do not often mix socially and intermarriage is virtually unknown.

In Kuwait, about half of the 1.4 million residents are foreign, including an estimated 300,000 Palestinians, and the government has recently begun studying ways to improve security and to repatriate workers when their contracts end.

Less than half Bahrain's work force is foreign, and the island has begun a large-scale Bahrainisation programme designed to gradually reduce the number of foreign workers. The island has a population of more than 350,000.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS ISSUES CALL FOR BOYCOTTING U.S.

GF180910 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Aug 82 p 1

[Editorial: "'Menahemize' the United States and Start Today"]

[Text] The immediate positive response to the call, "Boycott the United States and start with yourself today," is an indication that the downtrodden people were looking for a role and awaiting somebody to invite them to play it. It is illogical that when the Palestinian Revolution is being subjected to siege and annihilation, an Arab capital -- which Beirut is -- faces total destruction and the army of a racist country, Israel, advances on an Arab country, Lebanon, and occupies 50 percent of its territory, the armies of 21 countries stand idly by and 150 million Arabs adhere to dead silence.

Kuwait, which still believes in at least a minimum of freedom and democracy, has succeeded in being the conscience and the voice of the nation amidst the sea of horrible silence. The call for boycotting U.S. goods and whatever is U.S.-made may not be the solution that forces Israel to withdraw or make the United States announce its bankruptcy. The power of this call lies in creating a huge popular current that constitutes a moral pressure on the conscience of the American people, so that this in turn will pressure the U.S. rulers to stop practicing this shameful role that makes a superpower like the United States look as if it were the second star alongside the Star of David on the Israeli flag.

A popular boycott of a country is not an innovation. It is a weapon in the hands of the people that they use to weaken hostile states and to strengthen the position of national regimes that may feel impotent in view of the great difference in strength with a hostile state. Europe was the first to use this weapon -- known in English as "boycott" [last word published in English] -- in the late 19th century. This word was derived from the name of an agent of an English feudal lord in Ireland. With the upsurge of the movement to liberate Ireland from English domination, the call to refrain from dealing with the lord's agent, who was called Boycott, spread, thus coining the phrase.

The same thing needs to be repeated in the Middle East on a wide scale, where the feudalist here is the United States and the side subjected to explotation, persecution, humiliation and robbery at the hands of the U.S. agent in the Middle East are the Arab people. Its agent is Israel, whose current prime minister is Menahem Begin.

If the Arab people were fair, they would derive from the name of Begin a word symbolizing boycotting the United States in all Arab countries. For instance, we say "Menahemize" the United States, after Menahem, implying boycotting the United States. So, we repeat this call to every citizen, saying: "'Menahemize' the United States, and start with yourself today!"

OMAN

MINISTER DENIES FAHD PLAN REJECTION REPORTS

JN181355 Doha QNA in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Muscat, 18 Aug (QNA) -- Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas has reiterated that the Omani Government supports the Suadi peace plan, known as His Majesty King Fahd's initiative, which will be discussed at the forthcoming Arab summit conference. In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Muscat, the Omani minister denied reports to the contrary published by the Qatari magazine AL-'AHD. He said reports about the rejection of the plan are baseless.

ENVOY LEAVES FOR ISLAMIC MINISTERS CONFERENCE

GF181124 Doha QNA in Arabic 1955 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Muscat, 17 Aug (QNA) -- Salim Makki, director of the department of international organizations and conferences of the Omani Foreign Ministry, left Muscat for Niamey, Niger, today leading the Omani delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference. During the 6-day conference, developments of the Palestinian cause and the Zionist invasion of Lebanon will be discussed. The conference will also discuss the Iraq-Iran war and efforts exerted by the Islamic Conference Organization to find a peaceful settlement to this war, in addition to the situation in Afghanistan and the problem of Afghan refugees.

SAUDI ARABIA

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH KING FAHD

LD181334 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Aug (SPA) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in his office at 1440 today. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister.

The Syrian minister arrived earlier in At-Ta'if on a visit to the kingdom.

Radio Monte Carlo Report

JN181822 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Telephone dispatch by Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Riyadh 'Abdallah ash-Shihri -- live or recorded]

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to Saudi Arabia today has been described as very important, according to a responsible Saudi source.

Despite the fact that there are no details on the topics discussed during the meeting between Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this afternoon -- also attend by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal -- which was preceded by a meeting between the Syrian and Saudi foreign ministers immediately after Khaddam's arrival in Saudi Arabia, it has been learned that the issue of the presidential election in Lebanon was among the major topics discussed, in addition to the future of the Syrian presence in Lebanon and the resumption of the forthcoming Arab summit conference.

On the Lebanese presidential election, the Riyadh government stressed its support of any candidate who would be accepted by the majority of the Lebanese people, capable of restoring security and stability to all parts of Lebanon and who would work to impose the sovereignty of the Lebanese legitimate authorities in all parts of Lebanon. Riyadh also told the Syrian minister it is eager to strengthen Arab solidarity and to employ Arab potential in the service of Arab causes, away from any peripheral differences that could affect the course of Arab solidarity or could have negative impacts on the attempts to restore security and stability to the region and particularly to Lebanon. Saudi Arabia is concerned that Lebanon must remain united, must be sovereign and must have a strong legal authority to impose its control over Lebanese territory, regardless of who the candidate is, because Riyadh views this issue as a domestic Lebanese affair in which it has no right to interfere.

The second point discussed at the meeting focused on the Syrian withdrawal from Lebanese territory. Riyadh believes Syria must withdraw if asked to do so by legitimate Lebanese authorities, while Syria believes this should be postponed until the convening of the Arab summit conference, where a unanimous decision could be made on this issue. The Syrian command has already explained the reasons for this stand.

The forthcoming Fes summit was the third topic discussed during the meeting. The Syrian foreign minister stressed that his country is ready to attend the summit and to approve its agenda, particularly King Fahd's peace plan. Syria stressed its readiness to discuss it at the summit conference prior to accepting it.

The Saudi side informed Khaddam about its intensive contacts with Washington and West European countries which brought about some changes in relations between Washington and Tel Aviv and made the cease-fire hold for the longest time since the Israeli forces invaded Lebanon.

Well-informed sources here expect a substantial relaxation of the Beirut crisis will take place beginning next week, particularly with regard to the provision of services and foodstuffs, and restoring normal life to west Beirut. The same sources did not exclude the possibility that Beirut airport will be opened in the next 2 weeks after the Israeli forces withdraw.

Riyadh, 'Abdallah ash-Shihri

Departs 18 August

LD181630 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1516 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Aug (SPA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister left At-Ta'if this evening for home after a visit of several hours during which he was received by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He was seen off by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and several officials.

QATARI DEFENSE MINISTER DEPARTS 18 AUGUST

LD181532 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1457 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Dhahran, 18 Aug (SPA) -- Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent, minister of defense and commander in chief of the armed forces, left Dhahran International Airport this afternoon at the end of his visit to the kingdom which lasted a few days. He was seen off at the airport by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general.

Prince Sultan Statement

LD181748 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1610 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has described the visit Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent, minister of defense and armed forces commander in chief, as successful and excellent by any measure. It was a visit by a dear brother to brothers who are happy to see such visits repeated, and contributed to the bolstering of fraternal bilateral cooperation.

In a statement following the departure of the Qatari guest, Prince Sultan said military cooperation is only one aspect of the overall Gulf cooperation that the GCC was created to coordinate and strengthen.

Prince Sultan spoke of the Qatari guest's tour of a number of Saudi military installations to acquaint himself with their development in their capacity as an indivisible part of the forces of the Gulf countries and the Arab nation.

Prince Sultan announced that another meeting of the GCC defense ministers will be held next October, that this meeting will precede the GCC summit conference to be held in Bahrain and that it will contribute to drawing up a unified strategy for GCC member countries. He added that the results of the meeting will be announced then.

In his press statement Prince Sultan announced that King Fahd will open the National Guard Hospital in Jidda in the next 2 weeks. This hospital is huge and sophisticated, and is one of the numerous developments the king will be opening. He said there are numerous other military, health and industrial projects being implemented under the third 5-year plan which the king will open.

Relying to a question about the conflict between Bahrain and Qatar, Prince Sultan said: I do not believe there is a conflict between the two fraternal countries; it is only a difference of opinion. This matter will be solved by the nature of relations between the two countries. He denied that this matter was discussed during the Qatari guest's visit to the kingdom.

Asked about the situation in Lebanon, Prince Sultan affirmed that the kingdom is anxious to see the PLO remain strong, dignified and performing its role in retrieving the usurped homeland. He said the kingdom's efforts were ahead of all other concerted efforts being exerted for the realization of this objective.

Cables Exchanged

LD181856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1555 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Dhahran, 18 Aug (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, second deputy premier, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, has received a cable from Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent, minister of defense and commander in chief of the armed forces in the State of Qatar, in which he expressed sincere thanks and gratitude for the hospitality accorded to him and his accompanying delegation during his visit to the kingdom. In his cable, sent to Prince Sultan on his departure from Dhahran airport this evening, Shaykh Hamad said his visit to the kingdom has affirmed the profound fraternal ties between the two fraternal countries and the care shown by officials in the kingdom and Qatar to consolidate them in various domains.

Replying to Shaykh Hamad's cable, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz hailed the profound fraternal ties between the two fraternal countries and a desire for their constant consolidation in all domains in such a manner as to achieve progress for both fraternal peoples and the two Islamic nations. The prince wished his highness and the fraternal people of Qatar further progress.

SHAYKH YAMANI RETURNS FROM YAR 18 AUGUST

LD182208 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, returned to At-Ta'if this evening at the end of his few hours' visit to the YAR where he met with Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

PDRY

CABINET COMPLETES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING

GF180447 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The Cabinet today completed discussion of the appraisal report on the 1981 plan for economic and social development and the amendments to the 1982 investment plans. The Cabinet's meeting was devoted to discussion of economic development and was begun yesterday under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In light of the Cabinet discussion of the appraisal report and the amendments to the investment plans, a number of measures and recommendations to improve and develop the role of the executive apparatus in planning, to follow up the implementation of new investment projects and to increase the productivity of existing services and develop their methods of operation were adopted.

The Cabinet expressed its appreciation for workers' efforts at various work and production sites to implement the projects of the first year of the second 5-year plan for economic and social development. The Cabinet urged all government officials and cadres, cooperatives and workers in the various branches of the national economy to exert increased efforts to implement the 1982 investment plans, in accordance with the new amendments approved by the Cabinet.

The YSP Central Committee secretary general has emphasized the importance of all ministers, deputy ministers and all executive apparatus officials, the government's central apparatus and local government apparatus to directly and constantly follow up the implementation of the amended investment plans in accordance with the measures and recommendations adopted by the Cabinet in this regard.

Politburo members and cadres of the YSP Central Committee's Secretariat, the Cabinet and the Ministry of Planning attended the meeting.

YSP RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE

LD181736 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Aden, 18 Aug (ANA) -- Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member and secretary of the Central Committee, has received a message from the CPSU Central Committee dealing with international conditions and urgent matters facing the forces of peace as a result of the escalation of the imperialist agression in more than one part of the world. The message was delivered by the USSR charge d'affaires in Aden when he was received by Ad-Dali at his office yesterday. The two men exchanged views on a number of issues of interest to both friendly countries and ways of bolstering and developing combat relations between the CPSU and the YSP.

OFFICIAL RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AL-QADHDHAFI

LD181902 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Aden, 18 Aug (ANA) -- Salim Salih Muhammad, Central Committee member and PDRY foreign minister, received at noon today in his office Salim Muhammad Husayn, who delivered a message to him from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, commander of the 1 September Revolution, for delivery to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and prime minister, dealing with the latest developments in the Arab arena, the imperialist-Zionist offensive and with the need for coordination of the two countries' stand against it.

YAR

PRESIDENT SALIH RECEIVES PDRY'S 'ALI 'ANTAR

GF181056 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Brother leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received at the Republican Palace tonight Brother Brig 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, first deputy chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers and minister of local government.

'Ali 'Antar briefed the brother president on the results of his visits to Libya and Syria during which he conveyed messages to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the PDRY's 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The messages dealt with the latest developments concerning the Zionist invasion, the continuous aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the exertion of pressure on the Palestinian fighters, the national Lebanese Forces and the Syrian Armed Forces by the enemies of the Arab nation.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER

GF181435 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received at his office today Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister of the southern part of homeland, who conveyed a letter for Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and general leader of the armed forces, from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Central Committee, chairman of Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the southern part of the homeland. The letter deals with bilateral relations and current developments in the Arab arena.

SAUDI OIL MINISTER ARRIVES IN SAN'A' 18 AUGUST

GF181503 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabian petroleum and mineral affairs minister, arrived in San'a' this morning for a short visit to the republic. In his statement to SABA, Ahmad Zaki Yamani said he is carrying a verbal message to Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, from Saudi Arabian King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with bilateral relations and the strengthening of fraternal ties between the two countries. He was received by 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Bahr, minister of state and chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and Tirad al-Harithi, Saudi Arabian ambassador to San'a' and representative of the Foreign Ministry protocol department.

Meets President Salih

GF190434 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has received a message from Saudi King His Majesty Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. It was conveyed by Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi petroleum and mineral affairs minister, during his meeting with the brother president this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryan.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES LIBYAN ENVOY

GF180832 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr tonight received Muhammad ('Umayran), director of the Libyan People's Bureau in San'a', who delivered a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

'SOURCE': NO NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

PM181505 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 17 Aug 82 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Autonomy Negotiations Will Not Be Resumed Before Withdrawal From Lebanon"]

[Text] A responsible source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has stated that the resumption of the autonomy negotiations cannot be contemplated again prior to the withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon and the departure of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanese territory.

The source said that Egypt's specific position on this matter is that the Palestinian autonomy negotiations in accordance with the Camp David agreement have been frozen as a result of Isreal's flagrant invasion of Lebanese territory and repeated aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. They cannot be resumed unless this situation ends. If they are resumed when these conditions end, it must be on the basis of a new concept, because the Israeli concept strips these negotiations of their substance and meaning.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has informed the U.S. charge d'affaires in Cairo that the autonomy negotiations, if resumed, cannot continue on the same basis as in the past, because the Israeli concept strips this issue of its substance. He emphasized that the concepts pertaining to the transition period for the Palestinians and the final arrangements regarding them must be specified.

CABINET MEETS, REVIEWS LEBANON SITUATION

GF181644 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Aug (MENA) -- The Cabinet met this morning under Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din to discuss the foreign and domestic situation, the economic and foodstuffs situation and general guidelines for the draft bill to support and expand the public sector.

After the 5-hour meeting, Safwat at ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, said that during the session, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister amd foreign minister, reviewed developments in the Middle East crisis, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and all aspects since the beginning of the fighting and how Egypt began its active move early in a positive and effective way. The Egyptian president has also held wideranging contacts with concerned countries as well as launching extensive diplomatic efforts all over the world.

Safwat ash-Sharif added: Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that Egypt's stand is clear: It condemns Israeli aggression, asserts the need for a positive stand and seeks an immediate withdrawal. He also explained the developments that prompted this stand. Israel attempted to force the PLO out of Beirut and besieged west Beirut without any condition, thus trying to liquidate the PLO's political and military presence.

Safwat ash-Sharif continued: Egypt has countered this attempt through its intensive contacts with the PLO and an exchange of messages with the United States and Western countries to impose a cease-fire and avoid an attack on west Beirut to preserve the Palestinian Resistance and civilians and to ensure an immediate Israeli withdrawal. Egypt's declared stand has been that the PLO's exit should be coupled with a step on the road for a comprehensive settlement and that this should be in return for a political solution.

Safwat ash-Sharif also said: Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that in this regard, the Egyptian Government contacted and coordinated with the French Government to propose the French-Egyptian draft resolution to the UN Security Council which is based on a mutual and concurrent recognition between the PLO and Israel in which the PLO will recognize UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and at the same time, Israel will recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Safwat ash-Sharif added: Kamal Hasan 'Ali said this move was based on a clear agreement with the Palestinian Resistance and on daily contacts and exchanges of views with it.

The minister of state for information went on: Kamal Hasan 'Ali also reviewed the results of his recent visit to the United States and President Mubarak's message to U.S. President Reagan to intervene to settle the situation. This was also to be coupled with an Arab and Palestinian move. Egypt's stand throughout these contacts have been clear: not to accept any Palestinian except after getting a political gain in return and on the condition that the PLO's exit should be concomitant with another step on the road toward a comprehensive settlement. Egypt is still doing its utmost through diplomatic and personal contacts with the United States and the Arab countries to reach the best situation.

Safwat ash-Sharif said: Kamal Hasan 'Ali reviewed the U.S. stand and the contacts in this regard since the United States has every means to influence the Israeli decision.

He added: The deputy prime minister briefed the cabinet on the PLO's request to dispatch a team of Egyptian doctors to treat the PLO wounded during the current fighting in west Beirut. A team is being formed from the Health Ministry and an agreement has been reached to determine the location of treatment. The wounded are to go either to Egypt, Tripoli or Nicosia and Egypt will not hesitate to treat them.

Safwat ash-Shrif said: The cabinet also reviewed the visits President Husni Mubarak will make to a number of countries during the next stage at the invitation of Romania, the SFRY, Spain, Canada, the PRC, Japan and the DPRK.

Safwat ash-Sharif continued: The Foreign Ministry is currently contacting these countries to schedule the visits where there will be consultations and an exchange of views on issues pertaining to the Middle East crisis and to push the Nonaligned Movement forward since Egypt is one of the three founding countries of this movement.

The minister of information added: The cabinet reviewed the outcome of President Mubarak's visits to Oman and Sudan and his talks with His Majesty Sultan Qabus and Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. The results of these visits were identical Egyptian, Omani and Sudanese views: support for the Egyptian stand toward the Israeli invasion and the need for the Palestinians' exit to be made in return for a political gain on the road toward a comprehensive settlement.

He noted that there are ongoing consultations on the overall Arab stand and there is an exchange of views on the Lebanese crisis and the Iraqi-Iranian crisis.

Safwat ash-Sharif added: The cabinet discussed talks on autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and affirmed that Egypt is determined to continue advocating the Palestinian position after the outcome of the Lebanese problem and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon becomes clear. This is also applicable to the Tabah talks: They will continue as soon as a settlement of the situation in west Beirut is reached and when the Israeli withdrawal begins.

In this regard, Safwat ash-Sharif affirmed that Egypt's stand of preserving every inch of its national soil is clear and open.

He added: Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din reviewed at the outset of the meeting, the ministers' activities through party and coordination committees during the past 2 weeks to prepare for the NDP's General Congress which will begin on 20 September and at which the government's program during the 5-year economic and social plan will be proposed.

In his statement, Safwat ash-Sharif said the Cabinet also reviewed a number of internal issues and listened to a report from Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha on the domestic situation, price controls and the situation concerning the detainees.

He said the Cabinet reviewed a memorandum from Planning Minister Kamal al-Janzuri on the public sector's investments in the 5-year development plan 1982-1987. Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Fu'ad Hashim also reviewed foreign transfers and Egypt's exports.

MUBARAK, NUMAYRI TO SIGN INTEGRATION CHARTER

GF181818 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Aug (MENA) -- Husayn Mahmud Ahmad, secretary general for the Sudanese People's Assembly, said that Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri will sign a new integration charter between the two countries in Khartoum this September.

In an exclusive statement to the MENA correspondent in Khartoum, the secretary general said that in view of the previous integration experience, the two presidents have agreed on the need to enhance the process of integration between the two countries.

He added: The new integration policy will be based on new institutions to supervise the integration process, and these institutions will include a Supreme Council for Integration that will be headed by the two presidents and have the vice presidents and the speakers of the Egyptian and Sudanese People's Assemblies as members.

He said: The council will meet twice every year, once in each capital, and will also meet at any time when necessary. These institutions will begin operating after the two presidents sign the new charter.

ARMY UNDERGOING 'IMPROVEMENT, MODERNIZATION'

GF181655 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Tezt] Lt Gen 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz, chief of staff of the armed forces, has announced that the Egyptian Armed Forces are currently undergoing an overall improvement and modernization in all branches in order to remain capable of repelling anyone who might contemplate undermining our holy soil and our Arab land.

During a graduation ceremony for a new group of reserve officers today, he said: The armed forces [word indistinct] includes an elite group of our youth who have been commissioned as officers and who participate with their colleagues in carrying out the holiest and most honorable mission.

Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, minister of defense and war production, has approved the appointments of the graduates as probationary lieutenants in the armed forces.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON NONALIGNED MINISTERIAL MEETING

JN191041 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) -- The Iraqi Foreign Ministry today informed heads of the diplomatic missions of the nonaligned countries in Baghdad that the convening of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference in Baghdad next month is Iraq's natural right.

INA has learned that the Foreign Ministry explained to the heads of the diplomatic missions that the convening of the conference in Baghdad is in line with the resolutions adopted by the Havana summit. The Foreign Ministry said that Iraq, while taking this step, continues to value the unity and continuity of the Nonaligned Movement above all other considerations.

MINISTER JASIM REITERATES WARNING TO OIL TANKERS

JN181426 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1250 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Aug (WAKH) -- Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi minister of culture and information, has asserted that Iraqi forces are capable of enforcing the warning that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn issued last Sunday.

In a statement to WAKH, the Iraqi minister said the presence of Iraqi planes in the vicinity of oil tankers near the Iranian oil terminal on Khark Island yesterday morning was clear proof of the Iraqi Air Force's ability to execute the tasks assigned to it at the required time by the Iraqi [General] Command.

He said the fact that the Iraqi planes did not strike at the oil tankers does not mean they will not do so in the future; the tankers' owners are solely responsible for subsequent damage.

The Iraqi minister said the Iranian enemy knows better than anyone else that the Iraqi Air Force is able to carry out its assigned task. He said the Iranians still remember how our planes flew over Tehran and Qom and made several raids deep inside Iran.

The Iraqi minister said Tehran should fully realize that the flexibility that Iraqi has shown recently to end the war does not stem from weakness or inability to continue the war and inflict losses on Iran to force it to abandon its intransigence and resort to logic and reason.

CABINET DECIDES TO REQUEST MULTINATIONAL FORCE

NC181450 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The Cabinet decided today to request the dispatch of the multinational force, which will be deployed in and around Beirut. The Cabinet held its meeting at 1400 [1200 GMT] today under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis. The meeting was attended by the prime minister and the ministers.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan made a statement in which he said: I will content myself by saying that the Cabinet has approved the plan which we have worked out with Mr Habib regarding the departure of the Palestinians and achieving what can save Beirut. This would be the first step in the process of implementing Resolutions 508 and 509 issued by the UN Security Council and the contents of resolutions issued in this regard. I think that we shall be able, as we have said, to begin implementation at the beginning of this week.

He was asked: Have you officially requested the dispatch of the multinational forces? He replied: The Cabinet decided that the request should be made according to what is stated in the timetable, which was presented to the Cabinet.

He was asked: When will the process of the evacuation of the fighters begin? He replied: At the end of the week, and E-day will be decided within 24 hours.

He was asked: Are there still any outstanding points? He replied: I do not think that there are outstanding problems, and we have removed all the obstacles and ambiquities.

In reply to a question about Jordan's refusal to receive the Palestinians arriving by sea, he said: I have not been informed of anything of this sort. Whoever does not leave by sea will leave by way of land. What matters is that there will be a way for them.

He was asked: According to the security plan, will the implementation process take a long time? Prime Minister al-Wazzan replied: This process will take 15 days, and God willing, things will go well.

He was asked: Has Israel approved all the points? He replied: Yes.

On his part, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said: The cabinet decided to request the dispatch of multinational forces. I shall convey the request in writing tomorrow to the ambassadors concerned.

He was asked: When will the implementation begin? He replied: I hope that the implementation of the program will begin Saturday or Sunday.

Minister Butrus was asked: What is your view regarding the efforts which Habib is exerting? He replied: I think Habib is both stubborn and intelligent. I hope his efforts will not go to waste.

BEIRUT DRAFT EVACUATION PLAN APPROVED

NC190742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] The Cabinet met at 1400 [1200 GMT] yesterday, the session was devoted to discussing the plan for a political solution of the Beirut crisis through the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters from the capital within 15 days under the supervision of an international multinational force.

A ministerial source has said President Sarkis briefed the cabinet on the continuing negotiations to find a political solution for Beirut. President Sarkis said that after a lengthy phase of negotiations, a draft plan has been drawn up. It has won the approval of the parties concerned and includes Palestinian approval of Ambassador Habib's plan and of the departure of Palestinian leaders and fighters from Beirut, and the Arab states' agreement to receive the fighters.

The draft plan includes:

1. There will be a comprehensive cease-fire.
2. The [Palestinians] will depart from Beirut peacefully and according to a set timetable.
3. The multinational force will supervise the operation.
4. The noncombatant Palestinians remaining in Lebanon will be subjected to Lebanese laws and regulations.
5. On the departure day, the multinational forces will be deployed to secure the safety of Palestinians and Lebanese in the western area of Beirut and to support the state's authority. These forces will consist of 800 Americans, 800 French and 400 Italians along with 3,000 or more men of the Lebanese Army as required to maintain security.
6. If any of the clauses are not implemented, the multinational force's task will be regarded as terminated.
7. The mandate of the multinational force will be for 1 month. The Lebanese state has the right to renew its mandate if it is considered necessary.
8. The Red Cross will assist in the evacuation.
9. The departure will be by sea from Beirut port, by air to Cyprus and by land via the Beirut-Damascus road. The Israeli army will move away from the International Road to secure the safety of the withdrawal, and the Lebanese Army will coordinate with the PLO.
10. The defined period for completing the withdrawal is 15 days. The withdrawal will be carried out during daytime. The fighters may carry their light arms, a pistol or a rifle.
11. Heavy arms will be handed over to the Lebanese Army.
12. The [Palestinian] Resistance leadership will leave Lebanon publicly, and this will be clearly and openly announced.
13. The Israeli pilot captured by the Resistance will be handed over before the implementation.
14. The Liberation Army brigades will leave by land while the Syrian forces now in Beirut will leave for the Al-Biqa' or for the north, where the Syrian forces are located.

TUNISIAN AUTHORITIES WILLING TO ACCEPT 'ARAFAT

NC181702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The Voice of Lebanon has information that the approximate number of Palestinians who will depart Lebanon ranges from 7,000 to 8,000 fighters, and that some Arab states will receive the fighters, while other states will host the Palestinian leaders.

As far as the multinational force is concerned, it will include 800 Americans, 800 French and 400 Italians. If implementation [of the Habib plan] proves to be impossible, the force will immediately depart Lebanon. This force will be helped by 3,000 men of the Lebanese Army and of the internal security forces.

The information adds that the withdrawal process will take place during the day. Furthermore, and as part of this process, the Israeli Forces will be withdrawn from the land route over which the Palestinians will travel.

Under the implementation plan, the Palestinians will hand over their heavy weapons to the Lebanese Army. The Palestine Liberation Army will immediately leave for Syria on the understanding that the Syrian forces present in Beirut will be deployed outside the capital.

The information also notes the existence of a plan for the north and Al-Biqa' patterned on the Beirut plan.

In Tunis, a special committee headed by the minister of the interior has made preparations for the arrival of the first group of Palestinian fighters. Well-informed sources have stated that some 840 Palestinians will reside in a camp 100 km away from the Tunisian capital. The Palestinian leaders and their families will be given residences in the outskirts of Tunis.

These sources have said that the Tunisian authorities have consented to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's wish to go to Tunis.

'CONFIRMED SOURCES' ON DESTINATIONS OF PLO FIGHTERS

GF181457 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 18 Aug 82 p 20

[Text] AL-QABAS has learned from confirmed sources that it has been agreed that the 7,500 Palestinian fedayeen, who will leave Beirut, will be distributed as follows: 200 members of the Arab Popular Front will leave for Iraq; 1,000 North Yemenis will leave for San'a'; 1,000 South Yemenis, in addition to the Popular Front, will leave for Aden; 600 will leave for Sudan; 1,000 will leave for Tunisia, including the leaders of the Palestinian Resistance and 400 to Jordan. The Syrian Army, as-Sa'iqah and combatants of the Popular Front -- the General Command -- will leave for Al-Biqa'.

FIRST PLO GROUP TO DEPART FOR CYPRUS BY SEA

NC181734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Regarding the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut, the first group of Palestinian fighters is expected to leave by sea for Cyprus, guarded by military units of the U.S. and Italian Navies.

Regarding the release of the captive Israeli pilot and the remains of nine Israeli soldiers, a PLO official has said that the organization has agreed to Israel's request in return for an oral promise that an unspecified number of Palestinians will be returned at a later date.

There is an almost unanimous agreement among the various news and information media that next Saturday is the most probable date for the beginning of the evacuation of the Palestinian fighters in accordance with the existing plan. The implementation of this plan will last 2 weeks.

According to reports from Tunis, the Tunisian Government is making preparations to receive a number of Palestinian fighters. Reports during the past 2 days have stated that the PLO command may establish residence in Tunisia.

WOUNDED PALESTINIANS TO BE EVACUATED TO GREECE

NC181430 Paris AFP in English 1402 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Athens, Aug. 18 (AFP) -- Greece today was preparing to welcome a contingent of wounded Palestinian combatants Saturday -- the first to be evacuated from war-torn Beirut -- and to offer temporary refuge to thousands of Palestinian children.

Although for security reasons, details of their arrival here have not been released, informed sources said a first group of wounded fighters, suffering for the most part from serious fractures or eye injuries, were to come by plane via Cyprus for immediate treatment in Greek hospitals.

Both official government spokesmen and the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) diplomatic representative here, however, have insisted that the refuge offered to as many as 300 wounded guerrillas and 3,000 Palestinian children is strictly temporary.

Several Greek cities have offered to take in the children in municipally-run summer camps.

The American Embassy has asked permission to charter ships from the Greek Merchant Marine to help in the evacuation of the Palestinians from Beirut, the press here reported. There has been no official confirmation of the request.

Greece, the only country in the European Common Market [to] grant the PLO diplomatic status, last month announced it would help in the evacuation of Palestinians from Beirut if PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat were to ask.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH ON FUTURE OF PLO HEADQUARTERS

JN190646 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], has declared that since 1978 Damascus has been housing the headquarters of the Palestinian leadership. Therefore, he added, the Palestinian leadership, when evacuated from Beirut, will be located in fraternal Syria, which has offered every means of support to the Palestinian leadership. The Syrian Army, Hawatimah added, has fought and still is fighting alongside the joint forces.

In a statement to the SANA Beirut correspondent, Hawatimah said: Syria is the main supporter of our struggle and steadfastness. The PLO's political, administrative and military infrastructure will also be in Syria.

Continuing, Hawatimah said that Jordan is the natural place for the Palestinian Resistance since the majority of the Palestinian people are located there. However, the stand of the Jordanian authorities runs contrary to that of the Jordanian and Palestinian masses in Amman.

The DFLP secretary general expressed the conviction that the invasion of Lebanon is a joint Israeli-U.S. fascist operation in cooperation with internal Lebanese forces. He added that Israel's objective was to sieze territory 40 km inside southern Lebanon, but as far as the northern part of Az-Zahrani is concerned, this is serving the United States and circles in Lebanon, confirming that the United States is the chief engineer of the bloody game in Lebanon.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON CHAMBER SESSION POSTPONEMENT

NC182222 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies bureau on 18 August]

[Text] During the two sessions it held on 2 and 12 August 1982, the Chamber of Deputies bureau stipulated the need to hold the presidential election in a sound atmosphere and the need for a minimum level of security measures. It called for allocating the task of security to the legal military forces -- army and internal security forces -- around the Chamber of Deputies building and for these forces to take over all approaches and barriers leading to it. When we announced the meeting of the session on 12 August, we informed the executive authorities, in an official letter, of the need to put these measures into effect.

Since 2200 [2000 GMT] today, Wednesday, the responsible authorities have been unable to put these measures into effect because of the insistence of some armed forces, which are deployed west of the military court, [not to withdraw] -- as we have been officially informed by the responsible authorities. Therefore, the Chamber of Deputies speaker has decided the following:

1. To postpone the date of the scheduled session tomorrow, Thursday, 19 August, to 1100 [0900 GMT] on Monday, 23 August.
2. The session will be held in the building of the War College in As-Fayyadiyah.
3. To request the executive authorities to take the same measures and arrangements in the area of the war college.
4. The deputies should be informed of this officially and in accordance with the rules in force.

AL-JUMAYYIL COMMENTS ON ELECTION POSTPONEMENT

NC190721 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil has commented on the postponement of the [presidential election] session [of the Chamber of Deputies], saying: The change of venue and the postponement of the session do not change the given facts and the results of the battle. Furthermore, I approve of every measure that is taken by the presidency of the Chamber of Deputies to ensure the deputies' safety and to facilitate the election process.

MUSLIM MINISTERS, DEPUTIES TO BOYCOTT ELECTION

NC181456 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Regarding the constitutional deadline [for the election of the president], the Lebanese Front announced its position following the meeting it held before noon today. The Front endorsed the candidacy of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil for the presidency.

However, the former prime minister, the Muslim ministers and deputies and Islamic notables -- who met at the residence of [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam announced today that they will not participate in any session the Chamber of Deputies holds to elect a new president of the republic unless sufficient time is given to allow the Lebanese to meet, consult and reach an understanding on a common candidate, who embodies the unity of the Lebanese and safeguards Lebanon's democratic image.

AFP Report

NC181302 Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Nicosia, Aug 18 (AFP) -- Leaders of Lebanon's Sunnite, Shi'ite and Druze Moslem communities have decided to boycott the country's presidential election scheduled for tomorrow, the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio said in a report monitored here.

DEPUTIES EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR ELECTION SESSION

Kazim al-Khalil Statement

NC182010 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Deputy Kazim al-Khalil has denied news reports that he surprised the Muslim leaderships by attending the meeting that was held at the residence of [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam. Deputy al-Khalil said that he is not concerned with the subject of this meeting. He emphasized his stance on the need for attending the session, calling on his colleagues, the deputies, to participate in shouldering the historical responsibility and to contribute to the fulfillment of their constitutional duty.

'Alayh, Al-Biqa' Deputies to Attend

NC182030 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The bloc of 'Alayh deputies has decided to attend the election session tomorrow. However, the block has not issued any statement.

Meanwhile, the bloc of Al-Biqa' deputies is now meeting with Minister Joseph Skaff in St Charles Hospital. Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil this evening visited with Minister Skaff and reassured himself about the minister's health.

Maronite Deputies to Attend

NC182011 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The grouping of independent Maronite deputies met this afternoon at the home of Deputy Maurice Zuwayn. The meeting was attended by all the grouping's members, who decided to attend the election session and to vote in favor of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

JUNBLATT: AL-JUMAYYIL SEEKS 'DICTATORSHIP'

NC190807 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Leader of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement Walid Junblatt said yesterday that Bashir al-Jumayyil is seeking to impose a dictatorship which we will not tolerate. Without the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, Bashir al-Jumayyil would not be important. He added that the Chamber of Deputies in its present situation does not represent the people. He said skirmishes have actually begun in the mountains, where the Phalangist militia is humiliating the citizens. He added that confrontations and kidnapping incidents are carried out by these militiamen every day.

TWO BRITISH OBSERVERS ARRIVE IN BEIRUT 17 AUGUST

NC171427 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Two British members of Parliament -- David Watkins of the Labor Party and Cyril Townsend of the Conservative Party -- arrived in Beirut today to supervise the election of the president of the republic, which will take place on Thursday.

Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad had addressed an invitation to France, Britain and West Germany to send observers to Beirut to supervise the election.

SYRIAN FORCES COMMANDER ON OPERATIONS IN BEIRUT

JN190606 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Beirut -- The commander of the Syrian forces in Beirut has emphasized that our forces' role in defending steadfast Beirut against the Zionist invasion forces ia admired by all the fighters and strugglers in steadfast Beirut.

In an interview with the SANA Beirut correspondent, the commander said that the Syrian forces, in cooperation with the joint forces, had confronted five Zionist attempts to advance toward the Al-Barbir hospital. He added that the enemy, armed with high military capabilities, attacked our troops last Sunday. However, our fighters successfully managed to destroy four tanks, including a flail tank, a personnel carrier and two bulldozers, as well as to kill or wound well over 20 Israeli soldiers, at a time when the Israeli forces failed to advance more than 50 meters despite intensive air and sea bombardment and shelling by enemy artillery pieces which are stationed in the southern and eastern parts of Beirut. The commander added: We will not allow the invaders to desecrate nationalist Beirut. We have a strong will and are armed by the wise and brade leadership of the hero of liberation, President Hafiz al-Asad. We will abide by his slogan: Martyrdom or victory.

In conclusion, the commander of the Syrian forces in Beirut said: In defending Beirut, we are thus protecting the Arab nation's honor and dignity. The Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese cohesion will remain stronger than any aggression.

CABINET APPROVES PLO EVACUATION AGREEMENT

TA191004 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] A short time ago, the Cabinet approved the agreement for the evacuation of the PLO from west Beirut. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that a precise timetable was presented to the Cabinet, according to which the terrorists will leave the city on Saturday and the process will be completed within 2 weeks. During the meeting, further clarifications were received from the Americans enabling the approval of the agreement.

In contacts held this morning between Israel and the United States, it was made clear that the terrorists will release the soldier they kidnapped last night along with the pilot Aharon Ahi'az also held by them.

Cabinet Announcement

TA191012 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1003 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor reads Cabinet announcement and replies to questions by correspondents -- live]

[Text] We have reported that the Israeli Cabinet has approved the agreement for the evacuation of the terrorists from Beirut. We are now going to Jerusalem, to our political correspondent Gad Becker:

[Meridor -- transmission begins in midsentence] ...to endorse the amended draft of the arrangement for the departure of the terrorists, their organizations, leaders, members, headquarters and offices from Beirut and Lebanon that was submitted by Ambassador Habib. The Cabinet decided to introduce several amendments to the draft and which were then submitted to Ambassador Habib and accepted by him. This is the announcement in Hebrew. I will now read the English version.

[Meridor -- in English] The Government of Israel approved the draft arrangement concerning the evacuation from Beirut and Lebanon of all the terrorists including their organizations, leadership, members, commands and offices which was presented to the Cabinet by Ambassador Philip Habib. The government suggested several amendments to the draft and those were accepted by Ambassador Habib.

[Question by IDF radio political correspondent Gad Becker] Mr Meridor, is it clear that the Israeli soldier who was kidnapped last night will be released before the date of the evacuation?

[Answer] Israel made its position clear that the evacuation will not begin until we have received the prisoners, including the kidnapped soldier.

[Becker] Mr Meridor, was this position approved by the Americans and by the terrorists? Did they agree to it?

[Answer] On this issue, I will say nothing more other than to repeat the Cabinet position: The evacuation of the terrorists will not begin until our demand [derishatenu] is met. I do not want to damage anything, this is what I say: The Israeli people will have patience and we will see.

[Question by television political correspondent Elimelekh Ram] Did you discuss the question of the recurrent cease-fire violations by the Syrians and the terrorists on all fronts in Lebanon?

[Answer] The Cabinet discussed the plan, which was then presented and approved. I do not want to elaborate on other issues.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Has a date been set for the beginning of the evacuation?

[Answer] It is part of the plan; I do not want to go into details beyond what I have reported. However, the reference is to the near future.

[Question by Elimelekh Ram] Might the cease-fire violations in the Beirut area upset [lehafrika] Israel's agreement to the evacuation?

[Answer] As I have said, Israel agreed to the plan. Israel insists that violations are not perpetrated however, I do not want to link these two matters. We insist that calm should be maintained. [Portion of questions and answers in English rendered unmonitorable due to summary of Meridor's remarks by IDF radio correspondent in the studio].

Schiffer Outlines Details

TA181744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer and radio announcer Gabi Yinon -- live in the studio]

[Text] [Yinon] What does the agreement [on evacuation from Beirut] include?

[Schiffer] After 8 weeks of tough negotiating and deliberations accompanied by massive military activity, lengthy meetings between mediator Habib and Lebanese officials, Syrian officials, as well as with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche -- with occasional meetings with the prime minister and the foreign minister as well -- after all these, the draft agreement and its appendexes arrived this afternoon. One should perhaps note even before we discuss the contents of the agreement what it does not include. The members of the terrorist organizations will be leaving Beirut and Lebanon without all those conditions they raised at the outset of the negotiations. They will not leave offices in Beirut or take their heavy arms with them. Naturally, the IDF will not withdraw from any place over which it has control.

The preamble to the agreement states that the Palestinian organizations, including all their men, fighters and officers, will leave Beirut and Lebanon. More than 13,000 terrorists will depart within a period of 2 weeks to some regional countries, such as Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Tunisia, South Yemen and Algeria. Some 5,200 Syrian soldiers -- remnants of the 85th Brigade that was located in Beirut along with soldiers from the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] affiliated with Syria -- will leave in the course of the evacuation process, or between the 6th and 8th day of the evacuation, and will redeploy in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley. The PLA troops will leave for Damascus.

We should add that more than 1,000 foreigners, terrorists from various countries, who trained in the PLO camps and helped the Palestinian organizations, will likewise leave Lebanon.

The terrorists will leave with their personal arms and a multinational force, comprised of soldiers from France, the United States and Italy, will secure their departure.

Syria will absorb more than 3,000 terrorists; the members of Nayif Hawatimah's and Ahmad Jibril's organizations will leave for Iraq; George Habash's men will go to the PDRY, Jordan will take in more than 1,000 terrorists and the PLO leadership will set up its center in Tunisia. All this appears in great detail in the agreement and its appendicies.

[Yinon] Now, of course, it would be interesting to know how, technically, the agreement will be implemented.

[Schiffer] On the [first] day of the evacuation, which will probably be Saturday, a French Army unit will enter the port of Beirut and take up positions at two focal points that will constitute the terrorists' points of departure. The first group of terrorists will arrive there on buses, will be checked by the representatives of the multinational force and Lebanese officials, and will board a ship that will take them to Aqaba. The Lebanese Army will enter the western part of the city and will gather the arms and ammunition the terrorists leave behind. After half the terrorists leave by sea, U.S. and Italian units will arrive and secure the departure axes along the Beirut-Damascus highway.

The IDF will remove roadblocks, but it should be emphasized that the IDF units will not withdraw -- as we have said earlier -- as the terrorists had demanded [darshu]. I have learned that an effort will be made to photograph all the departing terrorists, and of course the terrorists on their part will make an effort to portray another picture -- that is, an organized departure together with their flags and banners -- but the IDF will make an effort to photograph the terrorists and provide Israel with a picture of the situation for the future.

The evacuation process will continue for 2 weeks. Jerusalem has already learned that many terrorists have obtained Lebanese and other documents, and that they intend to leave behind nuclei of their organizations, but this will be handled after west Beirut is evacuated.

[Yinon] We heard earlier that a Lebanese Government spokesman expressed his view that the captured pilot is still in the hands of the terrorists. Aharon Ahi'az is to be released in 2 days. What do we know about this expected release?

[Schiffer] One should say that this matter has already been concluded and was a sine qua non as far as Israel was concerned; namely, that even before the evacuation begins the terrorists [must] return pilot Aharon Ahi'az and point out the burial places of nine IDF soldiers. This matter has actually been concluded and Israel demonstrated an unwavering stand on this.

The PLO spokesman announced today that in a short while -- that is, after the evacuation -- Israel will make a certain gesture and release some hundreds of terrorists in the future. One can no doubt assume that these statements by the PLO spokesman are really well founded; that is, that Israel did not want, under any circumstances, to conduct negotiations with the PLO over the exchange of prisoners and wished to differentiate between the arrangement for the evacuation and the business of handing over terrorists. One can safely say that after the evacuation Israel will release a few hundred terrorists irrespective of the actual evacuation.

Further Details

TA181819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The addenda to the agreement [on the evacuation from Beirut] include commitments by the Governments of France, the United States and Italy that, if for some reason the process of the evacuation of terrorists stops, the multinational force's mandate will expire and its units will leave Lebanon. It was further stated that the multinational force units will remain in Lebanon 30 days.

'Problems' Cited

TA181930 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1910 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Report by political correspondent Elimelekh Ram -- videotaped]

[Text] Information reaching me today indicates that the number of those slated to leave Beirut this Saturday or Sunday totals about 15,600 people: 7,100 PLO members, 1,000 foreign, non-Arab soldiers; 1,300 leaders of various ranks of the terrorist organizations including noncombatants; 1,000 Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] members affiliated with Jordan and Egypt; 5,200 -- the remnants of the 85th Syrian Brigade, the remnants of the Syrian commando unit and PLA members affiliated with Syria.

On the eve of the evacuation, several problems have cropped up. There are thousands of terrorists carrying Lebanese identification cards, received in the past and recently, from the Lebanese Interior Ministry located in west Beirut. The intention of the terrorists' leaders to leave a nucleus of thousands of PLO members in Beirut is materializing in the field these days.

There is no conclusion yet on the axes of evacuation. Israel demands [tova'at] evacuation by sea while the terrorists prefer the land axis, apparently for demonstration purposes.

A security source said today -- and I am quoting -- that we will never know who will leave. He added he hopes we will know how many have left. In addition, there is no sign in the field that the Syrians are making any preparations to leave.

Another matter: After the evacuation, about 20,000 Palestinian militiamen will not leave the city, but will remain in Beirut.

SYRIA GIVEN 'SERIOUS WARNING' ON VIOLATIONS

TA181803 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Israel today transmitted serious warnings to Syria to stop the cease-fire violations in the eastern sector of Lebanon. Our political correspondent reports that the warnings were transmitted through the United States, and in them Israel explained that it would not stand still if the terrorists continue to try to operate from the eastern sector under Syrian aegis and with their help. It was emphasized in all the warnings that Israel takes a very grave view of the Syrian role in heating up the front.

LEVI INTERVIEWED ON 'NEXT STAGE' OF NEGOTIATIONS

TA182043 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Housing Minister David Levi by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, Hayim Yavin and Nisim Mish'al on the weekly "Moqed" program in the television studio -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Good evening, Mr Levi. Assuming that tomorrow the Cabinet approves the agreement for the evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut, does this mean an end to the war in Lebanon and a shortening of the IDF's stay in Lebanon?

[Answer] It is too early to speak of the end of the war, but certainly [it is] the beginning of the end. This stage we have now reached is a crucial stage in our fight against the terrorists. They will leave Lebanon. Their military infrastructure was destroyed.

Thus, we achieved an important goal concerning the security of our settlements in particular, and in general, undermining the status of the PLO which is a terrorist, murders' organization whose methods not only harm Israel -- although this is our major concern-- but also turned Lebanon, a peaceful country, into a torn, occupied country in which this organization practiced terrorism, murder and all the other terrible acts. We still have many problems which, I hope, will be the subject of negotiations and settlement, with the Syrians included.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, in the next stage -- will Israel indeed insist on the evacuation of the Syrian forces, on the evacuation of the terrorists from the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and on their evactuation from Tripoli? What will the next stage be?

[Answer] The whole world talks of a sovereign, independent, free Lebanon with a government as in any other country of the world. Everyone says that an initial, major condition for achieving this objective is the removal or departure of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Israel announced that it accepts this principle. Israel will insist that it not be the only one, but that the other foreign forces there also withdraw. I hope this will be carried out by peaceful means.

[Question] Does this then not justify military means to carry out the government's aspiration or decision, if the terrorists do not want to evacuate Tripoli or the Lebanese Al-Biqa', and the Syrians do not agree to leave Lebanon?

[Answer] Military moves are a means to achieve a goal; they are not the objective in themselves. You send the army into action when you are faced with a danger, when you have no choice, and you use the army in order to achieve the goal. Our goal was well-defined. Our settlements faced a danger. There was a continual threat to our lives. Nobody could have foreseen when this threat would have materialized. It is clear, however, that if the terrorists had set the day or the hour convenient for them, we would have paid dearly in human lives.

[Question] In other words, it will not be at all costs that Israel will insist on the removal of the terrorists from Tripoli and all foreign forces from Lebanon?

[Answer] I suggest that we not discuss this problem and now reveal all our cards as to what Israel will or will not do. We find ourselves in a crucial stage of removing the terrorists from Beirut. This objective has been achieved, and happily, by political means. I hope that no unexpected event or action will foil this achievement. As for the other things you spoke of: We are prepared to open negotiations, with the United States naturally playing a major role in the next stage.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, will the IDF leave Lebanon before the Syrians and the rest of the terrorists leave Lebanon?

[Answer] Well, we find ourselves in a situation in which we had better have a correct view of the position that we hold, a correct view of all the options at our disposal. We want a free and sovereign Lebanon. We want, and this is natural, a peaceful Lebanon with which we will no longer have a war. If foreign forces remain, if terrorists remain, if the Syrians remain in the Al-Biqa' with terrorists inside their lines there, then the situation I am speaking of will be undermined. Israel will leave Lebanon, wants to leave Lebanon, along with all foreign forces.

[Question] I understand from your remarks -- although you are not putting things clearly -- that you do not totally rule out the military option for the removal of the Syrians and terrorists from other places in Lebanon. We are now speaking of west Beirut. The terrorists are leaving.

This can be seen as a fact, almost. Post factum, do you not agree that the removal of the terrorists from Beirut was rendered possible only due to the military pressure applied to them, pressure which you opposed in the last Cabinet meeting?

[Answer] We will not discuss events in the Cabinet here. The political brains are active alongside the military effort. Both of them are -- I would say -- the right combination. Neither of them can get along without the other. Therefore, after we acted, after we destroyed the military infrastructure, the situation developed whereby we could, by political means, achieve this objective we set for ourselves: the ouster of the terrorists from Beirut. It is impossible to say that I ruled out a military move. Also, when one is faced with the chance that the political path will lead to their removal, one should always remember it is from a position of strength. A position of strength, on the other hand, should not spin your head to abandoning the political chance. A political path can succeed if it is your initiative, if you believe in it. I think that the government has conducted itself correctly in the two -- both military and political moves.

I never ruled out a military action, and it should be made clear here that if we had not succeeded, if we faced a situation in which the political path had been a dead end, we would not have put up with the continued stay of the PLO and its commands. At the same time, nobody doubts the IDF's ability to destroy these commands. The question, though, was whether this objective could be achieved without entering west Beirut, without causing Israel's isolation, without that price which none of us in the government, and certainly most of the people, wanted to pay. The question we had to examine was whether we could break the terrorists by military means only. The government sought a way, launched an initiative which will still prove itself, alongside the military effort. The combination of the two led to what we have achieved.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, you are speaking of a combined effort. I should perhaps ask a question that is still connected to the agreement. Should achieving the agreement which you are talking about not be attributed to Minister Ari'el Sharon, who personally conducted the military and political moves as you surely know?

[Answer] The responsibility is shouldered by the entire Cabinet. I do not belittle any minister, certainly not the defense minister and his rights. I cannot come and say here that everything that has been achieved so far is the single, sole work of this or that minister. The Cabinet, as a team, made the military and political decisions and has indeed, with joint efforts, brought about this agreement which, I hope, will stand on its own merit.

[Question] However, you do agree with me that the minister responsible in the field for the removal of terrorists from Beirut, both in the military and political sense, was the defense minister, nobody else.

[Answer] I have said I am not going to detract from his right. However, under no circumstances am I prepared to accept that a war, that political negotiations, objectives, are determined by a single minister and all the rest are "yes men." The Cabinet discusses and examines things. It is no secret that there are different evaluations in the Cabinet, but with joint and productive effort we reach the best possible way.

[Question] Still, Mr Deputy Prime Minister, what were you referring to last week when you said in the Cabinet meeting that military actions were carried out without the government's approval, contrary to its decisions, and that a basic thing -- the government's authority -- had been undermined? What did you mean by this?

[Answer] I cannot address myself to what was or was not said in the Cabinet.

The Cabinet, at certain stages, gave clear instructions that when our soldiers' lives are in danger we should react and defend them. When a minister believes that a certain action goes beyond this instruction and may, God forbid, due to its intensity and scope, jeopardize the chance for the political achievement well under way then, jeopardize relations with the United States and other things -- to lead to dead end situations as I believe or prolonged an ongoing war -- it is the duty of a Cabinet member to insist on the fulfillment of both the letter and spirit of that instruction. This is what I did.

[Question] Mr Levi, did the defense minister deviate from his authority last week?

[Answer] I told you, the scope, as it seemd to me and other ministers, deviated from the government's instruction. The Cabinet then convened and made appropriate decisions that are being carried out.

[Question] Do you believe that you curbed or stopped the defense minister? Mr Deputy Prime Minister, do you have confidence in Mr Sharon as defense minister?

[Answer] It is my role to restrain, or act as the "national restrainer" in the Cabinet. The Cabinet makes decisions and takes care that they are implemented. As I said, there are different, sometimes opposing assessments in the Cabinet. As for confidence, were it not for my confidence in the defense minister I would not have rested even a single hour. War is a matter of life and death. This does not mean that I cease to evaluate, follow up and equip myself with all data, to examine events against the background of different assessments. It was proven that not only one way exists.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, was deviation from the Cabinet decisions a one-time instance or were there several such instances in the course of this war?

[Answer] A Cabinet member weighs things and makes decisions according to the data he receives from the military. There is no one in the Cabinet, at least not me, who can conceive that the data, the briefing and updating we received does not faithfully reflect events in the field.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, beyond personal matters, would it be correct to describe your fundamental political position in terms of Israel's international relations as striving toward maximum coordination with the United States?

[Answer] Definitely. On matters of substance, vital issues such as our defense, our future and our central interests, we should under no circumstances accept the dictate of bowing down before pressure. By the same token, in order to demonstrate the fact that we are not bowing down and kneeling, there is no need for a crisis over issues that are not central.

I attribute great significance, perhaps central importance, to our relations with the United States, to having understanding with it and coordination of positions. There were circumstances in which Israel scored brilliant military victories, but since there was no such coordination and understanding, we emerged without enjoying the fruit of that war.

Under no circumstances, when the issues at hand do not pertain to our supreme interests, should a crisis with the United States be created; after Beirut other problems will come up, and in the Middle East we must have strong allies. We must not be isolated in the world, and we must not always think that we are a solitary people. That is why I attribute great and central significance to our relations with the United States, in the need to fortify them and coordinate our positions.

[Question] Has this line guided you in your political work inside the Cabinet?

[Answer] This is the line that has guided me in making my assessments, evaluations, considerations, judgments and decisions.

[Question] Sir, you spoke of the Middle East. Have you yourself, changed since the war first began some 2 months ago, regarding your attitude toward the question of war or peace in which Israel is embroiled?

[Answer] No. I have experienced no change. War is a terrible thing. It may be the most extreme act a people can undertake. It is no secret that we are a war-hating nation. All the wars have been forced upon us, including the last war. Was it possible to live with a reality in which in our country, in our homeland, Jews lived underground, children did not go to school, an entire population was under threat of shelling and death, and still say: We hate wars, so we will accept this reality? No, under no circumstances.

Hence, this war was one that was a necessity, and we were obliged to undertake it. Certainly, without a doubt, even after all this, the scar will remain, the wounds will remain open; we will still entertain doubts -- every war leaves these marks. However, these are wars for existence.

As for the constant striving toward reaching a situation in which we would no longer have to fight, we must, along with maintaining our force -- which I would describe as a deterrent power -- seek every way to attain peace with additional countries in the region.

[Question] Perhaps to be a bit more specific, Mr Deputy Prime Minister, for example on the Palestinian issue, has there been any change in your approach?

[Answer] That depends. Am I in favor of an arrangement? Yes. Am I in favor of searching every path to find partners to conduct talks with in order to establish the autonomy once and for all, which is the realistic way and one that precludes the danger to our existence? Yes, I am in favor of searching for elements or of fostering them so that this autonomy is established once and for all.

If you mean second thoughts or an attempt to undercut this course, then no change has occured in me.

[Question] Say something regarding Jordan: Would you support the notion or the proposal that the terrorists go to Jordan and that it be ruled, for instance, by Yasir 'Arafat?

[Answer] Jordan is a sovereign state, and let us hope the day will come when we make peace with it. We are hopeful for and indeed desire this peace and at that time. We are not here to change countries or replace administrations. I want us to say once and for all what the Israeli Cabinet has set out for itself. After all, there is Jordan and there is Israel; there is an Arab population residing in Judaea and Samaria. We are in favor of establishing the autonomy. Along with our desire to make peace with Jordan, we do not wish to mislead anyone, so let us make it plain that Israel will never, under any circumstances, accept the possibility of the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Question] I would like, if you please, to pinpoint your remarks, with your help of course, on a matter more of principle. I would say the following: One question that has cropped up quite often in the course of this war, which the public or perhaps leading figures among the public asked, was: What is your view of the use of the IDF's power to attain political objectives that may be somewhat external to the sovereign State of Israel?

[Answer] The IDF, after all, is there to defend the sovereign State of Israel, to defeat a danger to its security. It is not a means to undermine regimes. If a country threatens you with military actions, endangering your security, you are obligated to go to war. If any organization finds refuge and a basis in a neighboring country, that country shoulders the responsibility for that danger. The IDF is not a means for operations beyond that supreme objective of maintaining our security and sovereignty.

[Question] Mr Levi, how then would you explain the lack of a national consensus over this war?

[Answer] I cannot say that there was no consensus. I think this would be a mistake. Just look at the first days and you find proof of this!

[Question] Then how would you explain the demonstrations by Peace Now, by the Soldiers Against Silence and all the other groups?

[Answer] We are the State of Israel and the Jewish people, and we are a country in whose innermost soul lies the precept of freedom of speech. You may agree with this or disagree with this, but this is the way we are. It is a pity that sometimes this crosses the bound of our guidelines. But to go from this to say that in fact there is national disagreement on this war, I would not accept this at all. I think that after we got to where we are -- and I hope we will achieve the objective we have been talking about since the beginning -- political thoughts and second thoughts have occurred. If you ask me whether this is a happy sight: No, it is sad; but if you ask me whether this is legitimate my answer is yes.

MINISTER NE'EMAN COMMENTS ON LEBANON, SETTLEMENTS

TA181719 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1650 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 18 Aug (ITIM) -- Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman said this afternoon that he believes we will have to stay in Lebanon a long time, and that with regard to the southen part of that country, this will even take years.

Interviewed on the "News Conference" program, Professor Ne'eman emphasized that either way, the IDF will not leave Lebanon if the Syrians do not, and if we reach the point where the Syrians do leave it, a need will arise for security arrangements in southern Lebanon. If there is a friendly Lebanese government, it may evince readiness to reach agreements that will satisfy our security requirements.

He said that if the Syrians remain in the eastern part [of Lebanon] to guard Damascus, the IDF will remain in Lebanon to secure the Galilee. We are probably at the end of the first stage -- the military stage -- of the operation, but many questions still remain. The terrorist presence in the Syrian territory interferes with regular security, and if the Syrians introduce missiles we will have to think of what is to be done.

Regarding the PLO, he said that it may be able to reestablish terrorist squads rather quickly, but he said the international terrorism center in Lebanon is finished. This was the center from where aid was extended to the Basques in Spain, among others. The Israeli Intelligence Branch will have to follow the continued PLO activity, but it will not be considered a serious factor in the ongoing debate over Eretz Yisra'el.

Later, Professor Ne'eman revealed that he is considering withdrawing from the Knesset in order to allow another Tehiya member to enter it and thus increase the party representation from two to three.

As for the Cabinet vote, in which he was left in the minority with Minister Sharon, Professor Ne'eman said he has long been in the minority position, but he stated that he was nonetheless impressed by the degree of unity in the Cabinet on the Lebanese issue. To the extent that the prime minister is ready to adopt more stringent positions, this meets with no obvious opposition in the Cabinet, and when he advocates moderate positions it is more difficult to enlist a hawkish majority.

As a member of the Tehiya party, Professor Ne'eman continues to believe -- even inside the Cabinet -- in applying Israeli sovereignty to Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, while strongly opposing the Camp David agreements. He believes it is necessary to settle some 100,000 Jews in Judaea and Samaria, as it is necessary to establish a science center with research facilities in Ari'el or Shilo, with science-based industrial plants around it. A city should be set up in the Qatif bloc as well.

He also reported that the energy minister has suggested that the National Council for Research and Development be transferred to the Science and Development Ministry.

FURTHER 'ARAFAT REMARKS TO ISRAELI JOURNALISTS

TA171202 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 17 Aug 82 pp 10, 36

[Report on interview granted by Yasir 'Arafat to Israeli correspondent Dr Amnon Kapeliuk in west Beirut - date not given]

[Excerpts] Less than 24 hours after I arrived in west Beirut, I was informed by PLO spokesman Mahmud Labadi, a bespectacled young man who speaks English, French and German perfectly, that the "khatyar" (the "old man," as Yasir 'Arafat, who is 53, is called by the PLO members) was ready to receive me for an interview.

Upon arriving, 'Arafat introduced the other people attending the meeting -- to his right, General ("'Amid" in Arabic, equivalent to major general) Abu Walid, the head of the Operations Branch of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. He did not say a single word during the entire interview, which sometimes turned into a lively debate, and which lasted 2 hours. Also, when somebody told a joke and everybody rolled with laughter, he contained his smile. He is a serious man. His eyes were fixed on me the whole time. At the end of the table there was a Hebrew expert named ('Amad Shakur). He is an Israeli Arab who enlisted in Fatah. He was holding a transistor and at 2200 he retired to a corner and listened to the news on Voice of Israel. I also wanted to listen and everyone quieted down. Only the sound of the Voice of Israel announcer was heard in 'Arafat's headquarters for a few minutes. That was a strange feeling.

The interview was conducted in Arabic. Yasir 'Arafat wanted to know where I had learned Arabic, what my family and parents did and what my profession was. This was an opportunity to tell him about the monthly NEW OUTLOOK, which had also sent me to Beirut. I told him that the monthly, on whose editorial staff I serve, was now marking its 25th year of operation and that even in its first edition its chief editor, Simha Flappan, had written that the Palestinian problem was the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that it could only be solved by recognition of the right to self-determination of both peoples, both Israeli and Arab. "That was in 1957, a year before you established Fatah," I told him. Yasir 'Arafat smiled and commented: "Not so. Fatah was established in 1954 and in 1958 its official paper, FALASTINANA (OUR PALESTINE), appeared.

I computed the score: two to nothing in his favor. I had been held up and had also made a mistake in a date, but the atmosphere was comfortable and that was the main point. We sat beside each other, about a meter apart. All the others were looking at us. I opened: "This is the moment of truth. Abu 'Ammar (Yasir 'Arafat's name among his people), how do you view the future of the PLO and the Palestinian people?"

'Arafat revealed to me (and this made headlines the next day in the international press) that an agreement had already been attained between the PLO and the Government of Lebanon and Philip Habib, for the departure arrangements of the PLO members for Arab countries. "But we do not dismiss the possibility of the worst of all: Begin and Sharon are capable of surprising us." He added that the Israeli leaders should know that the Palestinians had learned the lesson of Massadah and the Warsaw ghetto. "We are prepared to sacrifice ourselves if there is a need for this. I am not afraid of death. It is my rival who should fear death." He was referring especially to the Americans because it is assumed that the elimination of the PLO leadership, and even Yasir 'Arafat alone would lead to an upheaval in the pro-Western Arab countries that had not lifted a finger to help the Palestinians in their difficult time of trial.

Yasir 'Arafat became serious when he talked about this topic. I examined him. Balding, alert eyes that know no rest, a beard that grows so rapidly that he always appears unshaven. During the interview he commented that the scornful and inhuman style of several of the Israeli leaders toward the Palestinians was a legal permit for killing. He recalled Begin's phrase "a two-legged animal," and added: "To what depths he descended when he called me unshaven. He obviously thinks that he is an Apollo."

Yasir 'Arafat did not deny the fact that the PLO had taken a blow militarily, but not politically. "Today our situation is on the agenda of the international community as a most urgent matter that cannot be ignored. The fact that there are difficulties in the Arab countries taking in Palestinians instructs us that they need a homeland."

He proposed that after the war an international committee should meet, one that would include all the countries involved as well as the superpowers, in order to discuss a solution to the Palestinian problem. "We are leaving Beirut and it will be difficult for us," he said. "But when have there not been difficulties? We will continue to work. My office is in Damascus, not in Beirut. The permanent meeting place of the Palestinian National Council is also in Damascus," he emphasized.

"Where will you go," I asked him. He mentioned several possibilities, but asked me not to publish them. For my part, I permitted myself to give him some advice. General Walid nodded in agreement, while my colleague from LE MONDE whispered to me: "You've got some nerve..."

I moved on to a series of questions that can be heard from the Israelis each time the issue of the PLO is raised, first and foremost the question of recognition of Israel. The reply came as though already prepared: "Begin and Sharon have said several times that they do not need our recognition and that even if we do recognize Israel, they will never negotiate with us. They regard us as Nazis, but the deeds they have committed in Lebanon, the terrible destruction of the refugee camps, the indiscriminate bombardments of besieged Beirut, are these not Nazi acts?"

I continued with another typical Israeli question: "Some believe you will not settle for a state within the boundaries of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and therefore you will constitute a threat to Israel." This type of question infuriates the Palestinians and 'Arafat reacts impatiently: "This is ridiculous. I do not understand these claims. Israel is the strongest military power in the Middle East. Is it possible to fear a Palestinian state that would need 20 years to be able to stand on its feet? It is incumbent on Israel to aim at coexistence with the regional countries and not create artificial problems."

Yasir 'Arafat explained that the decisions by the Palestinian National Council stated that alongside the armed struggle there is also the political struggle.

An argument developed between us on religion and nationality which deviated from the framework of the interview. 'Arafat tried to correct me on one of the clauses presumably the Palestinian Charter.

I took out a copy of the charter in Arabic which I was carrying and we suddenly found ourselves in a symposium. Then, while he was consulting with his aides, he said that there are various elements in the charter that require clarification and suggested that after the war an Israeli-Palestinian symposium be held in which "all the questions requiring clarification" will be discussed. We shook hands in agreement. He suggested that the sumposium take place in Europe, under the aegis of a friendly party.

"Did you make mistakes regarding Israel?" I asked him. He reflected for a moment and replied: "Yes. Our mistake was our failure to explain our cause to the Israelis. We do not have an efficient information system to bring our message home to the Israelis. We do not know their mentality well either."

As for the terrorist acts that harmed Israeli civilians, 'Arafat was categorical. He said he firmly objected to any hitting of civiliams and in some cases it was possible to prevent the bloodshed were it not for the Israelis opening fire as in Ma'alot, the Savoy Hotel and in Munich. "Nevertheless, he continued, the death of thousands of Lebanese civilians and Palestinians in Lebanon in the current war will remain an indelible stain on the forehead of the Israeli leaders. They will no longer hurl accusations of killing civilians in our face."

'Arafat is particular in referring to "Israel's leaders" and not about Israel as a homogenous body. At the end of the interview he had warm words to say about "the noble standing of Eli Geva' [the IDF brigade commander who refused to fight in Beirut] which stems from real Jewish values." Indeed, Eli Geva' became a legend in besieged Beirut. I was asked several times whether I knew the courageous officer and answered in the negative, to my regret. Lebanese and Palestinians, journalists and even diplomats, asked me who he was, what his background was and what importance to attach to the phenomenon. "Had he visited bleeding besieged Beirut he would have known how right he was when he refused to participate in the assault of Beirut," 'Arafat said.

In contrast, the issue of the pilots was brought up. 'Arafat as well as other leading rank-and-file PLO members asked me how the Israeli pilots could drop bombs on population centers indiscriminately. "Is there an Eli Geva' among the pilots as well?" 'Arafat asked me, and I could not answer his question.

Another Israeli who is heartily praised by the Palestinians is MK Yosi Sarid. His positions are well known in Beirut. "We have ideological disagreements with him and there is no secret about this, but beyond all this we appreciate his positions and his struggle for recognizing the right of our people to self-determination. We are all grateful to him for his struggle. Tell him this on behalf of all of us. When peace prevails, many will remember his struggle."

I told 'Arafat that this praise may harm Yosi Sarid and he observed: "The days are past when one had to be afraid of saying good words of the other side. Express our gratitude to him nevertheless and give him our invitation to visit besieged Beirut. This invitation is extended to him, to Matityahu Peled, to Uri Avneri, to Me'ir Wilner and of course the Peace Now movement members. The 100,000 demonstrators of the movement in Tel Aviv were like 100,000 torches which, when lit, expelled the darkness."

IRC OFFICIAL ON SUPPLY SHIPMENTS TO W. BEIRUT

TA181812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The International Red Cross [IRC] has said that it has obtained from Israel the go-ahead to transfer large consignments of food, fuel and medication to west Beirut tomorrow. The shipment of food is intended to sustain 12,000 large families for 2 weeks. The loads have so far been withheld by Israel, the IRC spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the IRC spokesman has denied Israel's contention that IRC personnel tried to smuggle radio-teletype equipment to west Beirut inside a shipment of medication and medical equipment. A member of the organization in Geneva noted that the equipment was part of the medical equipment intended for west Beirut, and emphasized that following a brief inspection, the convoy was allowed to proceed westward with the equipment.

MINISTER SHAMIR CRITICIZES MITTERRAND REMARKS

TA181823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the statements made by the French president last night do not herald a change in his country's policy toward the Middle East. This policy is founded on the presumption that it is necessary to establish a Palestinian state and on support for the PLO. Minister Shamir noted that Mitterrand, who regards himself as a friend of Israel, should remember that friendship has a commitment: It is impossible to be both friend and also adopt positions such as voting at the United Nations in favor of an arms embargo against Israel.

PERES RETURNS AFTER MEETING WITH MITTERRAND

TA181953 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1925 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 18 Aug (ITIM) -- Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres returned this evening from Paris, where he met with French President Francois Mitterrand and with the French premier and interior minister.

Speaking to correspondents at the airport, Peres said the French president was right in saying that "no hysterical attacks would turn him into an enemy of Israel."

Peres believes that there is no foundation to the criticism leveled at the French president; he reaffirmed that, as in the past, he met a friendly man, most of whose positions are close to the positions Peres himself holds. He was similarly surprised to read about some unfounded reactions in Israel to Mitterrand's remarks.

Later Peres said the French president's television appearance on Tuesady evening was most significant. Peres particularly noticed the fact that Mitterrand refrained from talking about a Palestinian state and instead talked about a Palestinian homeland. Indeed, Mitterrand called the PLO a fighting organization, but he added that the organization should bear the results of his war. Mitterrand made it clear that France has never recognized the PLO nor will recognize it before it changes the Palestinian Charter.

The French president again emphatically reiterated French support for the Camp David accords and the peace agreements, Peres said, adding that on the Jewish issue, too, he was adamant and expressed understanding for the warm and affectionate feeling French Jewry harbors toward Israel.

MK Peres also said that Mitterrand has launched a confrontation with anti-Semitism, and made it plain that this is part of the French president's ideological pledge. Peres was similarly impressed by the fact that Mitterrand faced up to terrorism, and just today implemented practical moves by appointing a deputy minister to the special position of handling the problem and by outlawing the "Direct Operation" organization.

The Labor Party chairman discerned a warmer attitude toward Israel in Paris, despite the fact that Israel has in the past 9 weeks lost a great deal of the sympathy it had enjoyed. "What was particularly harmful to our image were the bombings of Beirut, and now special efforts should be made to stop the erosion and establish a different future," Peres said.

During his 3-day stay in France, he also dealt with the Soviet Jewry issue. In his meeting with Mitterrand, the president told him that he has been a veteran fighter for this cause, promising that a senior French Cabinet member will represent him in a special congress scheduled to take place this year in France on Soviet Jewry.

Peres avoided a direct answer to the question of whether he had met with any Arab personality on the additional day he spent in France, as he was originally scheduled to return to Israel yesterday. He said he went to Nice to participate in a solidarity meeting with Israel held by French Jewry. "Under the present circumstances I thought it important for me to participate in that conference," MK Peres said.

PRESS ON LEBANON ELECTIONS, RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

TA190712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] HA'ARETZ writes that the evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut is not yet a full victory for Israel, if we take into account that the government wants to get the Syrians out of Lebanese territory. But the victory over the PLO is complete if taken on its own. Israel, HA'ARETZ writes, must make do with what it is about to achieve at this time and must leave the subject of the Syrian presence in Lebanon to political negotiations in coordination with the Americans.

The Histadrut daily DAVAR says, rightly or wrongly Israel wants to increase Bashir al-Jumayyil's chances of winning the presidency in Lebanon. The paradox, DAVAR writes, is that the Israeli military presence in Lebanon helps Al-Jumayyil's chances but, at the same time, hurts him. In this delicate situation, DAVAR writes, wise Israeli politicians should hold their tongues on anything having to do with relations with Al-Jumayyil.

In 'AL HAMISHMAR, the leftwing MAPAM party says Francois Mitterrand has proven that he really is a friend of Israel. Friendship, 'AL HAMISHMAR writes, does not mean identical opinions. Mitterrand is still in support of Israel's secure existence and any French recognition of the PLO is not unconditional.

THE JERUSALEM POST agrees that France is not lost as a friend of Israel, saying Mitterrand's meeting with Shim'on Peres and his banning of direct action help prove that. But, THE JERUSALEM POST warns, France still wants to salvage what is left of the political PLO and could be used by the United States to pressure Israel on the Palestinians.

SECRETARY GENERAL EDEM KODJO DISCUSSES OAU

AB150910 Paris International Service in French 1310 GMT 14 Aug 82

[OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo studio interview in Paris on 14 August -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Edem Kodjo, you remain the OAU secretary general juridically. How long will you retain this post?

[Answer] I am quite ready and prepared to hand over to my successor. I can assure you that I am ready to do so as soon as African heads of state and government appoint a new secretary general. Believe me, I will do everything possible to hand over as soon as possible.

This notwithstanding, one does not leave a sinking ship. It is a matter of honor and dignity. I am not the type of man that can quit an organization when it is facing problems. If there are problems, one must face them and though the current situation is not particularly bright, I am ready to face it and to do my best to settle what you describe as the crisis in the OAU and to ensure that the organization recovers its unity and integrity.

[Question] So you are still the OAU secretary general?

[Answer] Yes, still.

[Question] Good. Interviewing you will be a number of our colleagues: Philippe Decraene, leading writer and head of the African Department of the French daily LE MONDE; Charles Lescaut, journalist with Radio France International; Abdelaziz Dahmani, senior journalist with JEUNE AFRIQUE; and Rene Backman, senior journalist with LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR. First, a question from Philippe Decraene.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, some African political leaders say that you are too clever. What do you think of this judgment?

[Answer] Too clever? I don't know. I don't pretend to be clever or too clever. I attempt to serve a continent facing problems -- very urgent problems. To diagnose them and to find the therapy, it seems to me that one needs a certain faculty for understanding the objectives of all groups and their concerns so that we can reach agreement. This is what I have always attempted to do. This is what I have tried to do, particularly on the economic front. Despite what Mr Bourges said a while ago, that is, in spite of political differences, we found a common ground on the economic front for all member countries through the adoption of the Lagos plan of action. If you call this being clever, then I will say I am. However, if you mean embracing politicking, refusing to face reality or to tackle fundamental problems, then I am not a clever man, Mr Decraene.

[Question] The accusation is not from me and I will add that it is with regard to your attitide on the Western Sahara conflict, particularly the admission of the SDAR into the OAU.

[Answer] I did not display too much cleverness in this matter. I was honest to myself and with the African community on the Western Sahara issue. I will explain. The SDAR sought admission into our organization as a full member state at the Freetown summit, and admission took place at a time when the Council of Ministers was holding its session and when the heads of state were scheduled to hold a summit. Indeed, the fateful 26 votes were only obtained during the heads of state discussions on the Western Sahara issue on the basis of the report of the ad hoc committee. At the request of member countries, I publicly announced at that time that the SDAR was now entitled to become a full member of the organization. Then, still at the request of a number of member countries, I submitted the list of the 26 member states that had recognized the SDAR and wanted the SDAR to be admitted.

There were acrimonious discussions in Freetown; everyone is aware of this. The heads of state were divided on the admission issue, but eventually a solution was found. It called for the issue, as well as Morocco's petition on the legal aspect, to be postponed until the ad hoc committee set up in Freetown completed its mission. That is the first truth.

The second truth in this matter is that after that agreement -- a consensus which can be found nowhere in the resolutions of the organization and which was the last chance for a consensus in view of the somewhat heated atmosphere -- the Freetown summit thus gave evidence that the organization's charter on the question of admission is quite clear as it stipulates that a state is admitted only when it has received the fateful 26 favorable votes. It gave evidence that this was not now a matter calling for a meeting of the Council of Ministers or a summit of heads of state and that it was incumbent upon the secretary general to inform the SDAR of the fact that this entity had obtained the 26 votes. It so happened that the very states that all along accepted the consensus with the other states, began again to question the admission of the SDAR, with harsh and sound legal evidence to support their position.

Some people have said I was too clever. I was not clever. I simply said this to those gentlemen: For the time being, I cannot send this letter, for we are facing a situation whereby the heads of state have had to discuss the matter, rightly or wrongly. I can only send the notification letter when I have again submitted this question to the heads of state and government. In the meantime, the same states continued to interfere, saying that the secretary general was violating the charter by not applying clearly and satisfactorily the substance of Article 28 of the charter. In my humble opinion, it is, indeed, difficult to find clear juridical evidence against those claims. It is said that Morocco filed a prejudicial motion implying that the heads of state were to determine the quality of a member state before the secretary general could take a stand on the admission. However, this is not to be found written down anywhere.

Firstly, if there is a prejudicial question, the assembly of heads of state and government must decide whether it is a prejudicial question. Secondly, I am not in charge of the implementation of Article 27 of the charter, which precisely interprets the charter and which could have enabled the heads of state and government to say whether the SDAR is a state. Thirdly, it was incumbent upon me to follow the most logical and common procedure of the OAU, which has until now been: The secretary general waits in his Addis Ababa office. One day, he receives a letter written and signed by the foreign minister of a given state, saying it wants to become a full member of the organization. The secretary general passes around the letter, receives the answers and when he has obtained the 26-vote simple or absolute majority, the secretary general informs the member state concerned that it has become a member state of the organization. This procedure was followed in the case of Zimbabwe. It was accepted and understood in the case of Zimbabwe and nobody had any objections.

If the same steps had been taken for the SDAR's admission, I would have informed it of its admission even before Morocco could file its prejudicial motion. Even if Morocco had filed the motion before my notification letter, I would have admitted the SDAR, in compliance with the established practice. Then I would have submitted Morocco's legal claim to the summit of heads of state and government since they alone can interpret the charter, not the secretary general. I challenge anyone to give me juridical evidence that the decision is illegal.

It is said that the question was removed from the secretary general's competence, but doing this would be equal to altering the organization's charter. If so, Article 28 of the charter ought to have been altered in Freetown so as to say clearly: As from now, you, secretary general, have no right to inform the SDAR of its admission because we, heads of state and government, state that this question is no longer within your competence. Had Article 28 been so altered, I would have been in a comfortable position. Instead, the article was not altered and so for a whole year I was between the devil and the deep blue sea, caught up between those who say the charter is clear -- read it and you will understand that they are right -- and those who say the matter was referred to the heads of state. A door must be open or closed. This is what I humbly told them at the Nairobi summit; I said I would not continue to violate the charter. After the Nairobi summit, I was right in sending the notification letter to the SDAR, which I did. This all seems clear, logical and without any form of crafty politicking.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, what happened between the 1980 Freetown summit and 31 August 1981 when you informed the Polisario of its admission into the OAU? Had any fundamental change occurred?

[Answer] Nothing had changed. What happened was simply the following: After the Freetown summit, the 26 countries organized themselves and regained self-control. Then they wrote to me saying that it was not in the power of a summit to hold discussions on the admission of a state, for the debates on the admission were being held at the level of heads of state and government, thus making it a political question on which a decision required a 2/3 majority. The charter is not ambiguous. No state has been admitted into the OAU with a 2/3 majority -- every state has so far been admitted on the basis of a simple absolute majority.

What happened was this: Since the setting up of an ad hoc committee, it held two sessions, the first one without a hitch. The admission issue was put to the ad hoc committee during the second session by the current chairman himself and not by the secretary general. And yet, the question was taken off the agenda until the ad hoc committee had completed its investigation. The question was brought up again at an ad hoc committee meeting by the current chairman, who said that the Western Sahara affair was a fundamental question. The committee, having refused to acknowledge its competence on the issue, led everyone to believe the secretary general was responsible, for if the very committee set up to look into the question declares its incompetence and refers to the charter, then the secretary general is the spoilsport. This is why I assumed my responsibility clearly before the heads of state in Nairobi, telling them that the question could no longer be ignored as it had become the bone of contention and it was thus necessary to settle it once and for all. That is what has changed, Mr Lescaut.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, under international regulations, a state is accorded its status depending essentially on its territory and its actual administrative functions in the territory. Have you recognized the SDAR as a state?

[Answer] Mr Decraene, the answer is simple. It is not Edem Kodjo who created the SDAR. It is not Edem Kodjo who created the Polisario Front. It is not Edem Kodjo who recognized the Polisario Front as a state. It is not Edem Kodjo who voted for its admission. It is 26 sovereign states exercising their sovereign rights that said: It is a state. How can you expect the secretary general to block the political will clearly expressed by member states? Only a state can say: I recognize a given entity as a state. The poor secretary general has no say in the matter and no objection to it.

[Question] I think we have discussed this question of the Western Sahara at length. I think Abdelaziz Dahmani from JEUNE AFRIQUE still has a question. It is going to be the last one on this issue which has taken about half the time alloted to our program.

The OAU is completely obsessed by the SDAR issue and I find it shocking for the organization to talk only of Western Sahara, whereas other problems exist, particularly the question of Eritrea. And several other issues have remained pending for more than 20 years. Nobody examines them, only the Saharan problem, which cropped up in 1975, blocking all OAU deliberations. Don't you find it somewhat shocking?

[Answer] What I know as a responsible international official is that no Eritrean issue has ever been laid before me. For me -- perhaps it is shocking to state this -- Eritrea is a nonproblem. I have already said this once. JEUNE AFRIQUE, it is a nonproblem for me because I don't know about it. I hasn't been laid before me and I have never seen it on any agenda. Why should I make it my concern?

[Question] We are going to examine other problems because I think Mr Kodjo has a lot to say. One such problem is the Chad problem, and it is worth mentioning because precise charges were laid on the OAU as it had sent to that country a buffer force which, according to all parties involved in that drama -- from former President Goukouni Oueddei to several others -- played a role to which it was not assigned. Mr Kodjo, can you elaborate on the issue?

[Answer] Actually, that is something which we have deeply resented and felt on our conscience because we thought we were doing the right thing. We made enormous efforts to set up, for the first time in OAU history, something having the shape of an inter-African force -- not to intervene in the fighting, but to maintain peace. At present, only its negative aspect is being considered. But please believe me, it was not easy to start an operation of such scope. The OAU had no experience nor did we enjoy any experience of peacekeeping operations. That was our first operation and, all in all, I believe the organization did what it could. This notwithstanding, I regret another fact. The Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] of Chad and the OAU signed an agreement. Later, when the GUNT was no longer happy about some clauses of the agreement, it did not call on us to convene a meeting of the countries contributing to the force with a view to making possible changes to the unsatisfactory clauses. Instead, a sort of quarrel came into being between GUNT and the OAU. It was brought to public notice. GUNT spoke of a conspiracy. I want to say that if there ever was any conspiracy, then I was not one of the conspirators. In any case, I do not personally think that there was a conspiracy.

There was a difficult situation. We first had to find countries willing to contribute contingents for the force. We managed to persuade Nigeria. You remember that since the Cancun conference, appeals had been made, making we Africans feel for a while as though we were being blamed for not taking prompt actions and that we were not able to solve our own problems. However, I must point out that before Cancun we had already started contacts with several countries with a view to persuading them to participate in the force. Eventually Nigeria and Senegal were willing to do so, for which they must be commended. With regard to Zaire, this country was proposed by GUNT itself. I heard of Zaire's participation for the first time from GUNT. When it sent a request to President Mobutu, I went to meet him, and he told me: I have already given my consent to GUNT. Henceforth, GUNT did not object to the composition of the force. Its counsel was taken first and the agreement mentions this clearly. GUNT agreed on the choice of the three countries to participate in the force.

We were confronted with enormous problems -- funding problems. You know several African leaders objected to the setting up of an inter-African force because they believed that the OAU was unable to handle it. They preferred the United Nations. We explored UN avenues and we ended up with a solution based on voluntary contributions. Everyone knows how the system of voluntary contributions operates in the United Nations, but we hardly received assurances the United Nations would cooperate with the OAU when new developments took place in Chad.

So, I want to say that all criticism against the African soldiers who tried to do their best is received with bitter resentment. We bear no grudge against anyone, but we believe we carried out our duty. Some of the soldiers were killed. Others were involved in accidents. They were not there to actually fight other factions. I am sure the contributing countries did not want to hear of their troops fighting Chadian factions. Should we in the Secretariat have mobilized a Kwame Nkrumah-inspired force -- which is still nonexistent -- which would have meddled in the affairs of Chad by fighting against factions? The truth must be told and the truth is clear: The contributing countries did not want their troops to fight. The spirit and philosophy underlying the agreement on the force was that it was a peacekeeping force, a force not designed to engage in fighting like the factions.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, 4 years ago, just after your election in Khartoum, your first interview was with Radio France Internationale. You said in that interview that the OAU must be an economic organization and not a political one. In view of the fact that all those discussions deal with politics, you personally seem to be a political figure. Have you been serving your economic views or your political opinion?

[Answer] I would rather be 100 percent a man of economy than a man of politics; a man obsessed by our continent's economic problems rather than a man entangled in Africa's politicking. Responsibility for this situation lays primarily with you newsmen. You are concerned only with political issues. If you ask me questions in the economic sphere, I will answer them, but if you question me on politics, why should I give you answers pertaining to economy?

I must say that the situation is dramatic, considering the African Continent as it is now, its place in the world and the geostrategic considerations that clearly are understood by other nations but not by African nations themselves. Some time ago, I read the (Ramsey) report -- the second one: It says Africa is on the way to being excluded from the world economy. This is true. Figures at our disposal are alarming. I know my long-standing friend Philippe Decraene, whom I like very much, is far more optimistic than I am, and he holds the view that I like playing the defeatist at times. However, as Bourges put it, I am personally pessimistic in my analysis but optimistic in my action. I have always shown through my action what should be done. However, I dare anyone to show that I am wrong by displaying the global statistical data on Africa's debts, its balance of payments, and the possibility for African countries to intervene in the financial markets. Unfortunately, I am right.

This doesn't mean that we made no effort. We have made great effort. In several countries, the problem of illiteracy has been virtually solved. I note that Somalia and Ethiopia have solved this problem and I know that the rate of school attendance is climbing like lighting in our countries. I know efforts are being made in health care and agriculture. However, I am a macroeconomist and I must take into consideration the global data and compare it with those of other continents. Maybe I am pessimistic because of my eager ambitions for Africa, in that perhaps I am eager to see our continent take up its rightful place in the community of nations -- a place it is not occupying at present.

I am sorry to witness all the divisions. I don't belong to any camp. I do not care about ideologies. I am in search of an African ideology that can at last allow room for culture which would no longer be ignored, as it is in models of development inconsistent with genuine development, an ideology in which the cultural and social aspects can fit along with the perspectives and objectives of development. This cannot be achieved without pan-Africanism -- maybe not the enthusiastic pan-Africanism of the 1960's, but a form of rational pan-Africanism integrating the efforts of the whole continent to overcome its difficultires. This is why I ignore the types of distinction such as North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa. This matters very little. I am aware that we have ethnic and tribal groups and that all these are obstacles, but I am also aware that without integration there will be no salvation.

There is no possibility for individual states. Even if they happen to enjoy Kuwait's living standards, they will have little weight in world affairs. Our continent has a central position with the considerable attendant geostrategic consequences. Look at all the activities close to our continent -- in the Indian Ocean, the rush for strategic points throughout the area. This should attract the attention of Africans themselves on the future importance of their continent. I will not talk of its resources today, whether mineral or natural resources. It has been so much talked of that it has become commonplace. But with regard to geostrategic considerations and with regard to its resources, the only chance for the African Continent to solve its problems lies in building an African nation rather than in the making of states. I am aware that many people today believe that we must build states. I wish good luck to our African states. I am African and I will always uphold every just cause of Africa. But will all African problems be solved while there is a state with 8 million inhabitants enjoying the same living standards as Kuwait if in the meantime there is probably a neighboring country whose poverty-stricken people will be starving to death? These are African realities. There will be no salvation outside economic integration or without a rational and regular march toward continental unity. This is why I am now going through a drama. I am a pan-African man in an organization that seems to be divided.

[Question] Allow me to do a little backtracking. After coming from Tripoli, one has the feeling that Chad is being mocked, that there are persons, each wanting his own Chad and, in maintaining the fiction concerning Chad, asking whether Goukouni is head of one state or another. I think it is leading more and more to breaking Africa in two. Don't you regret this? Doesn't this stop all that you have attempted to do for the development of Africa -- the Lagos plan, the law of the (?sciences), the human rights charter? Is what we see from day to day leading to the breakup of the OAU?

[Answer] What happened in Tripoli concerning Chad reveals the problems we have on the continent. There were two Chadian delegations and finally, as usual, we came to a compromise under which the Chadian charge d'affaires in Tripoli would represent Chad. I say a compromise as usual because it is this kind of compromise which, by dint of being a compromise, creates problems, above all difficult problems. As such I do not have to take sides in this affair. I heard it said in the lobby that the Secretariat had invited two Chadian delegations. Let's be serious. The Secretariat did not invite any delegation. The Secretariat does not invite anyone to participate in OAU meetings. The OAU meetings are fixed by agreement among all, the dates are known well beforehand and then the delegations attend. Therefore, the Secretariat has no responsibility in this affair. But I repeat, this all reveals the priority that politicking is gaining over the fundamental problems with which we should be more preoccupied, that is, prpblems of development, human rights, scientific development, as you said a short while ago, problems on which we work very hard.

You know that before leaving, President Senghor made a proposal which we undertook on our account that called for reserving at least 2 days for the summit of heads of state and government to examine issues on economic and cultural development. However, I believe we have to go further and treat them all equally because there is no reason why we should fight over issues pertaining to politicking while ignoring vital issues concerning the survival of the African Continent. Whether the Sahara finds itself on the left or right, the people are Africans, they are in Africa. Whether the Chadians belong to one faction or another, they are not boat people. Excuse me, they are Africans. Therefore, in 15 years, in 20 years, or 50 years, history will not remember anything concerning this, but history will forever remember what was done to establish the continent and to make something else out of it other than what our lagging continent experiences today, despite all its potential. This is what concerns us.

[Question] Do you have the feeling that at the level of regional groupings -- notably big organizations like ECOWAS -- substantial and encouraging progress has been made during these past years or do you have the feeling it all remains wishful thinking?

[Answer] I can reply clearly that progress has been made in Africa regional integration. We have a number of regional organizations such as ECOWAS which, after a difficult beginning, now has reached its cruising speed and I believe that progress -- if not substantial at least serious progress -- has been made within ECOWAS. I note with much pleasure that the Central African states do not want to lag behind and that under the guidance of President Bongo there is presently an attempt to set up an economic community for Central African states that will group 11 countries. I can tell you that the text of the treaty and the protocol have already been prepared by the OAU and the Economic Commission for Africa [ECA] in Addis Ababa with the agreement of technicians from this region. I think this initiative will soon be concretized. In the southern and eastern parts of the continent, there is another great movement in operation -- a preferential trade zone which was promoted by the ECA, with our participation, but primarily by the ECA. And this preferential trade zone, which constitutes the first steps toward an economic community groups 18 states, from Angola, for example, up to Djibouti. It therefore groups all states on the central axis, so to speak. Finally, in southern Africa itself, there is the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference [SADCC] which is a community promoted by the frontline states and those states locked in by South Africa which is aimed at freeing them from South African control, especially in communication, transportation and all forms of development. I would say there is a slow march toward this economic community. The results are not always extraordinary but they exist and these communities should be encouraged.

[Question] Mr Edem Kodjo, I would like to ask a frank question on the future of the OAU. After 20 years of existence, it is noted that the structures of the OAU often appear to have not adapted; they are even bureaucratic. This organization, like any international organization, experiences important external influence which is paralyzing it. It was created to realize a certain number of actions -- to liberate the continent, to fight against apartheid. These actions have been partly, only partly but in a greater part realized. When one talks with some of the founding fathers of the OAU, one feels that whatever their different political inclinations and options, there is an attachment between them with the OAU and the usefulness of this organization. I think of President Nyerere, for example, who during all the meetings in Tripoli made every effort to save the organization from breaking up. That is to say that in spite of all the differences and the problems that existed, there could still be African unity.

However, others, younger ones, that is, new heads of state, new leaders, say the old OAU of 20 years ago is outlived and that another body should be created, basically for economic problems. What do you think of this different conception?

[Answer] I am young, that is true, but on this fundamental question I think I am rather in favor of the founding fathers, because whatever the difficulties facing the OAU, whatever the shortcomings of the charter or the imperfections in our methods, or the extent of our compromise, I believe the OAU is indispensable. It is a forum we cannot do without. You brought up the problems of interference by external forces in Africa. This external interference is a reality. However, often the OAU, as a body and an institution, constitutes the best barrier against such interference. And it is because the OAU constitutes the best barrier against this interference that people seek to create problems for the OAU. Many talk of an economic organization, of an economic OAU. I don't think there can be an OAU which is solely economic. However, there should be just an OAU which understands the problems and truly defines priority objectives. Today there is a man, President Houphouet-Boigny, who is engaged in a solitary struggle on the fundamental problem of raw materials. The OAU has to take up this concern of President Houphouet-Boigny. It should not be the struggle of a single man. The OAU as a whole has to take up this fight and try to cope with such fundamental problems. The day the organization as a whole adopts a resolution and takes concerted action in support of President Houphouet-Boigny's initiative, for example, all our moves will have more weight and value than when they are initiated by a single country. That is true struggle.

In my opinion, the OAU should be maintained at all costs and I don't agree with those who believe that 20 years after its creation the organization should be given up as lost and that we should strike a credit balance for liberation, then try to assess what is to be done in the economic sphere and finally say: We are now going to set up another organization. From what already exists, we can really construct something solid for the development of the African Continent.

[Question] You have just talked about an eventual change in the OAU. The OAU should perhaps develop toward a new model. Can't the first step of this change be the modification of the charter because some African politicians feel that the charter tends to be either incomplete or insufficient or just simply poorly compose?

[Answer] I am in a good position to know that the charter is completely outmoded. How else could you explain that in the Saharan affair, which I don't want to discuss again, there is a situation of confusion, established in a greater part by the charter itself. Therefore, I say that whatever the case, I believe the charter is already outmoded. It should be reviewed and maybe one of the lessons that we will learn from the crisis will be to truly accelerate the work of the various committees set up for the amendment and reactivation of the charter. We need a charter that reflects the struggles of the 21st century. This charter should give priority to economic development in all forms, that is, a development which integrates culture, a development based on respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of the peoples and a charter which truly permits the different structures of the organization to function conveniently. It should be a charter that strengthens the power of the structures established in the charter, because today, it is not the least paradoxical to note that responsibility is given to a man who actually has very little power.

[Question] Mr Kodjo, you say though you are young you side with the founding fathers of the OAU. Aren't you a little pained to see that only one of the founding fathers still in power made the journey to Tripoli, regardless of the Saharan issue and that states of right [pays de droit] countries like Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Tunisia and Egypt are among the countries that boycotted the summit?

[Answer] It depends. Take the case of President Ahidjo; he has never missed a single summit. We cannot draw any conclusions other than that it was because of the present crisis. And, in this case, there are, in fact, two aspects, for you mentioned seven [as heard] countries and out of these seven countries there are those who did not go to Tripoli because they did not want to sit together with the SDAR and also those who were not prepared to go to Tripoli in any case.

[Question] I asked two different questions -- that of the founding fathers who refused to go to Tripoli and the states of right which refused to go, including, naturally, Senegal.

[Answer] I leave it to you to judge. I very much like Senegal and I have a lot of respect for the Senegalese president so I will not say anything concerning your appreciation of states of right. I know that Senegal is a state of right. However, I will say that it pains me to reply to your question, but I believe that when there is a problem of this scope you never have to despair for Africa. And I think we must trust the committees set up -- the (mici dominici) -- which were selected and charged with undertaking an action aimed at possibly patching up our organizatwon because we never have to lose hope for Africa. It is when we believe that it is at its lowest ebb that it finds in itself reasons to emerge and motives for its regeneration. Therefore, personally, I still have the hope that this crisis will not lead to the end of our organization but that this crisis will make the organization more mature, will endow it with more adequate means for its development and that it will constitute, as in the past, an institution in the service of the African peoples for the total liberation of our continent.

[Question] A final question, and if you permit, a very personal one, Edem Kodjo. Your relations with your own country, Togo. It seems your country disapproved of your attitude on two occasions: the first time in the conflict which opposed Nigeria and Cameroon and the second time, when you had to be proposed as candidate as the OAU secretary general, Togo did not feel like doing so. I know that nothing is stipulated in the OAU regulations that a secretary general should be proposed by his country, but I know you are attached to your country well enough for me to ask you what you feel about it.

[Answer] You ask a very delicate question; I will reply frankly by saying that first of all my country, Togo, is a sovereign country that has an independent and sovereign government and that has the sovereign right to make decisions the government deems useful. I will not permit myself to make the least criticism or the least observation; I will not make the least commentary on the actions that my government took as a sovereign state on those two precise occasions. I believe the government had its reasons for doing that and I don't have to know the reasons. Above all, I don't have to detail its reasons and try to question them.

What I can say is that whether at the OAU or not, I have been fighting for the cause of African unity since my student days. You recall that I militated with the Rennes section of the Federation of Students from Black Africa in France. I was even a president and I am very proud. I will continue to serve Africa in all possible ways. I will determinedly put the little ability I have to the service of the African Continent because this generation will build something for our continent. On this generation falls the ardent obligation to work toward the modernization of Africa without rejecting its past. On this generation falls the duty to construct the base for a coherent scientific development, without which nothing can be done. And don't think that I am only nostalgic for the past. If I am conversant with the history of Africa and if I sometimes refer to past greatness, I am resolvedly modern and I know that Africa does not have a chance to succeed unless it resolvedly enters the modern era through adequate scientific development.

It is because of this that I recall the idea I developed earlier on, that of finding an African ideology. I have recently discussed this with President Senghor. I think this theme should mobilize African intellectuals. We need an African ideology and we can find it.

In fact, we need a guiding scheme aimed at promoting all aspects of an African's activities toward greatness. Not the type of selfish and contemptuous greatness, but a form of greatness that is open to others, accepts others and accepts a share of their experience. That is what we need and you know that secretary general or not, I will continue this struggle. I will fight on. I will endeavor to be useful to the African Continent because I am driven by a single desire: to serve Africa.

MANO RIVER UNION MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETS

AB131755 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The ninth session of the ministerial council of the Mano River Union was solemnly opened this afternoon by Ahmed Sekou Toure, head of state and supreme leader of the revolution at the 2 October Hall of the People's Palace in Conakry. This ninth ministerial session is being attended by delegations from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. It follows the meeting of experts of our three countries who, since 4 August, have been examining in Conakry the realities of our organization, its budget, its development and the adaptation of its program of action to its new demands.

The opening ceremony of this ninth session, which regroups ministerial delegations from our three countries -- Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea -- was held in the presence of the members of the national (?federation) and several political cadres.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD181424 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The brother leader today spoke at the morning session of the second Islamic conference that is meeting in Tripoli. Hundreds of ulema and Muslim scholars are attending the conference. At this session, the leader dealt with several essential issues of interest to Islam, Muslims and their fateful issues. In his speech, the brother leader called for the adoption of the call for the liberation of God's holy places and for the struggle so that the holy places will not be under any authority. The brother leader stressed the need for the holy lands to be open to all Muslims, who will not need any visa from an embassy to visit these lands and who should not be subjected to any inspection or questions when in these lands.

The leader also called for setting up an international assembly for Islam, consisting of all Islamic organizations and societies. He also called for the formation of a political association of all Muslim peoples to replace the Muslim World League, which carries out the orders of the Saudi princes and legalizes what is forbidden for the Saudis.

The brother leader stressed the importance of the adoption of Islam without any creeds in the call of those who call for Islam in the world because this is regarded as a return to the original source and a return to Islam which came down from God to Muhammad -- may God's prayers and peace be upon him.

The brother leader pointed out that Libya has become the center of hope for oppressed Muslims everywhere and a symbol for the liberation of the Arab masses. It is also a symbol for the gathering of Muslims everywhere, reaffirming that there is no contradiction between the revolution and religion.

In this connection, the leader referred to the reactionary presentation of Islam adopted by the Al Sa'ud family, reaffirming that this example is the worst example on earth as the Sa'uds are the most cynical, immoral and backward people. He said the United States is leading a 10th crusade against the Muslims with Saudi oil. He pointed out that the Sa'ud princes obey U.S. orders and they agreed to convene a summit to disperse the palestinians and to put an end to the Palestinian Resistance after having been ordered by the United States to do so. In this connection, he said the Great al-Fatih Revolution is against the conducting of negotiations between the Palestinians and the Zionist enemy because negotiations with the Zionist enemy have led to the destruction and invasion of Lebanese towns.

The brother leader drew attention to the empty slogans with which the Saudi rulers boast with regard to the pan-Arab issues, saying: We challenge these rulers to stop the oil supply to the United States, withdraw their credits from U.S. and Zionist banks and sever their political relations with it. We challenge them to send a military division to participate in the eviction of the Zionist enemy in accordance with the Libyan Arab proposal.

JANA REPORTS ON OFFICIALS' TALKS IN PRC

LD172204 Tripoli JANA in English 1637 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 28, August 17 -- Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Mr Jadallah 'Azzuz at-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, this morning held their first round of talks during which they discussed world affairs of mutual interest, bilateral relations, and development of bilateral economic, trade and technical cooperation.

Also present on the Libyan side were the secretaries of communication and marine transport, economy and light industry and a number of experts from various secretariats. On the Chinese side also present were the foreign, industry and trade ministers and a number of officials from other ministries.

Our correspondent in Beijing reports that during these talks joint committees were established on economic, trade and technical affairs. They are given the task of laying the foundation for strengthening and developing bilateral relations.

The Chinese side expressed during these talks its full desire and readiness to develop cooperation between the two peoples.

Premier Zhao Ziyang opened the talks with a speech welcoming the Libyan Arab delegation and stressing his country's desire to develop and strengthen bilateral relations in all fields.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA RECEIVES POLISARIO ENVOY 18 AUGUST

AB181732 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] this morning received in audience (Mohamed Abdel Fattah), special envoy of the Polisario secretary general, who, upon arrival yesterday in Nouakchott, said he has a message from His Excellency Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario, to the CMSN chairman.

After being received this morning by the head of state, the Saharan envoy told the press he is satisfied with the frank and fraternal atmosphere that characterized this audience. He remarked: The relations of fraternity and solidarity between the Saharan and Mauritanian peoples are growing stronger as the days pass and for our mutual good.

The presidential audience also was attended by the permanent secretary of the CMSN chairman and head of state.

MOROCCO

KLIBI 'CONFIDENT' OVER SUMMIT PREPARATIONS

LD181454 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Morocco this morning at the end of a short visit marked by his meeting yesterday with His Majesty King Hassan II. Before leaving Sale-Rabat airport, Klibi spoke about the results of his visit:

[Begin recording] As is known, I was received yesterday by his majesty the king and discussed with his majesty several issues connected with the two important meetings to be held in Morocco -- the preparatory meeting and the summit meeting, or rather, the resumed meeting of the Fes summit. This morning, I held a working session with my colleague, M'hamed Boucetta, and we also reviewed several topics connected with the organization of the two meetings.

As I leave Morocco, I am confident that his majesty, his government and the Foreign Ministry led by Boucetta will do their utmost to remove all obstacles and to facilitate the success of the two meetings to which we and Arab public opinion attach special importance in these circumstances in which the nation is confronting, as I have said, very grave challenges that make it incumbent on us all to adopt a united and strong Arab stand. [end recording]

The Arab League secretary general was seen off at the airport by the minister of state for foreign affairs, M'hamed Boucetta, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry and others.

HASSAN ADVISER RETURNS FROM ARAB TOUR

LD181648 Rabat MAP in English 1226 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Casablanca, Aug 18 (MAP) -- The king's adviser, Mr Ahmed Bensouda, returned here Tuesday afternoon winding up a tour that led him to Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti, and the two Yemens.

The tour was related to the resumption of the Arab summit of Fes that was adjourned last November.

In a declaration to the press, Mr Bensouda outlined that because of the tragedy the Arab nation was going through, because of the current events in Beirut and because of the suffering inflicted on the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples who are being assassinated, deprived of food and besieged, King Hassan II addressed a letter to secretary general of the Arab League calling for the resumption of the Arab summit of Fes. Besides, he added, the sovereign addressed to Arab kings and heads of state personal messages insisting on the necessity to participate at the highest level in this important conference.

On the other other hand, Mr Bensouda stated that the current events in Lebanon, despite their seriousness, can be considered as the first victory of the Palestinian people who gave to the world the image of an Arab citizen who does not fear death and who is ready to make all necessary sacrifices for the triumph of his cause.

The dramatic events of Lebanon unveiled the real nature of Israel which pretends to be the oppressed victim in search of peace but which is in reality the assailant and the oppressor, Mr Bensouda said. King Hassan II, he added, wants to make of this tragedy a political victory through the defense of the Palestinians' rights to establish their state as it was decided during the 7th Arab summit held in Arab [as received] in 1974.

Mr Bensouda finally said that the heads of state of the countries he visited promised to spare no effort to be present at the summit that will be shortly held in Morocco.

BOUCETTA, SOVIET OFFICIAL DISCUSS RELATIONS

LD182216 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, today received Mr Tikhvinskiy, ambassador at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and member of the Diplomatic Academy and the Academy of Sciences in the USSR. Both sides reviewed many issues on the agenda of the forthcoming session of the UN General Assembly. They also discussed bilateral relations and the means for their consolidation. Mr Tikhvinskiy is paying an inspection visit to Morocco. The meeting was attended by Ghali Binhimah, director of international organizations' affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and by the Soviet charge d'affaires in Rabat.

SUDAN

PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS EXPECTED IN SEPTEMBER

JN181444 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Aug (SUNA) -- It was announced here today that the Palestinian fighters will arrive in Sudan in September. A PLO delegation led by Zuhdi al-Qudrah, PLO representative in Cairo, will arrive in Khartoum tomorrow.

The delegation will be briefed on preparations for receiving the fighters in Sudan in accordance with Sudan's decision to welcome them. The delegation will meet with First Vice President Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib on Saturday. The delegation also includes 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abadah and Mustafa 'Arafat. Sudan earlier announced that it is willing to receive 600 Palestinian fighters.

Committee Formed

JN190944 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 19 Aug (SUNA) -- A high committee chaired by First Vice-President 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib has been set up to see to the hosting of Palestinian fighters in Sudan.

An executive sub-committee has been set up for this purpose under the chairmanship of the state security deputy chief, Major General Kamal Hassan Ahmad.

The first vice-president yesterday met the northern region governer, the northern province commissioner and a number of officials from the state security and the Ministries of Defence and Foreign Affairs, and discussed with them the functions of the high committee.

WESTERN SAHARA

PRIME MINISTER: OAU MEMBERSHIP FAIT ACCOMPLI

LD132012 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] Following the statement to the press by Nigerian President Shagari on Wednesday, concerning the 19th OAU summit, Prime Minister Mohamed Lamine Ould Ahmed, Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR], said today that Moroccan expansionism, supported by the United States, is solely responsible for the situation in Africa.

He said the OAU's acceptance of the SDAR as its 51st member is a fait accompli and there is no going back on it. It reflects the undeniable right of the Saharan people to independence and is in accordance with the OAU Charter and the will of most African states, as expressed in the Tripoli communique of 8 August.

Mohamed Lamine Ould Ahmed added that the SDAR therefore confirms its intention to assume full responsibility within the OAU as a full member. He said aggressive Morocco must stop pursuing a policy of splitism and sowing the seeds of dissension inside the OAU and it must return to legitimacy.

COMMUNIQUE DETAILS CLASHES WITH MOROCCAN TROOPS

LD181654 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Summary] The SDAR Information Ministry this morning issued a communique detailing the Saharan People's Liberation Army's actions against the Moroccan Army on 13 August.

Between 0700 and 0830, the Saharan fighters fired, using high-caliber weapons, on a Moroccan unit 5 km from [name indistinct] in southern Morocco in the region of Ouarkziz. As a result of this shelling, 15 royalist soldiers were killed and several others injured. On the same day, the Saharan People's Liberation Army, using heavy arms, intensively bombarded the Moroccan troops of aggression stationed at (Mguessnelhiran) and Lemseie, also in southern Morocco, for 20-25 minutes.

ETHIOPIA

SIAD BARRE CRITICIZED FOR 'WAR EMERGENCY'

NC172047 Paris AFP in English 2013 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, Aug 17 (AFP) -- The state of emercency declared by the Somali authorities along the border with Ethiopia on Sunday was aimed at giving the ruling regime in Mogadishu sweeping powers to crack down on the opposition, Ethiopa charged here today.

It was Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre's "latest gimmick" to deal with "massive popular discontent at home, not to forestall a non-existent Ethiopian threat, the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) said in Addis Ababa's first reaction to the declaration.

The state of emergency was in response to intensification in fighting that broke out along Ethiopia's borders with Somalia on July 1, responsibility for which has been claimed by the opposition Somali Salvation Democratic Front (DFSS).

Addis Ababa, which has been blamed by Mogadishu for the hostilities, has consistently denied the charge, saying not a single Ethiopian soldier was involved.

"Like a drowning man clutching at a straw, Siad Barre is resorting to desperate measures in a futile effort to keep his sinking regime afloat," ENA said in a commentary.

Under the emergency powers, the Somali Defense Ministry and commanders in the field can use all means available, including the requisitioning of property, to help the war effort.

Fierce clashes, resulting in hundreds of casualties on both sides, were reported on August 12 and 13 in the central Somali provinces of Galgadub and Mudugh, around the towns of Balambale and Goldogob.

The ENA commentary accused "international imperialism led by the (U.S. President Ronald Reagan) administration" of being "in the fray" and of fomenting crisis in the horn. The agency said Washington had "gleefully" come to Mogadishu's aid by supplying it with weapons, adding that this was no surprise as it was consistent with the U.S. Government's policy of aiding and abetting repressive regimes as in El Salvador and the rest of the world.

ENA also denounced the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for "falling victim" to the ploy of President Barre and broadcasting his propaganda for him. It denied the existence of a "special correspondent", alternately named as Mezgeb Workie or Getachew Tadesse, both Ethiopian names, which the BBC claims is based in Addis Ababa.

'Armed Rebellion' Cited

EA181902 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The mounting discontent and opposition to the oppressive Siad Barre regime, simmering for years, has now grown worse. Siad Barre's arrogant invasion of Ethiopia and ignominious defeat 4 years ago has plunged Somalia into economic difficulty and social upheaval and has led the Somalian masses into armed rebellion. This was the culmination of several months of unease and tension leading to the arrests of (?seven) prominent officials who publicly demanded an end to Barre's rule.

A series of public demonstrations in Mogadishu, military defections in central and northern Somalia to the opposition Somali Salvation Democratic Front, which is coordinating the various factions inside the country in an armed struggle to topple Barre and his ruling clique, have also taken place.

Siad Barre is now resorting to desperate measures in a futile effort to keep his sinking regime afloat at whatever cost. International imperialism led by the Reagan administration is fomenting crisis in the Horn of Africa by stockpiling the fascist dictator's war machine.

As fighting intensified in northern Somalia and in the central provinces of Ghel Gedut and Mudugh, in and around the towns of Balambale and Gaolgodob, Siad Barre declared on Sunday a state of emergency in these areas. The purported reason is to forestall Ethiopian incursion into Somali territory.

The regime has been trumpeting such claims ever since dissident troops in the country began challenging the brutal dictatorship in Mogadishu. These successful challenges to the regime's corrupt and tyrannical rule have been conveniently projected to the outside world as armed offensives by Ethiopia.

Siad Barre and his cohorts in the Mogadishu dictatorship have been facing massive and popular discontent, gathering momentum as repression escalated. Following Barre's declaration of the state of emergency, the U.S. State Department has announced increasing arms shipments and diplomatic support for Somalia.

SOVIET OFFICIAL CONCLUDES VISIT 18 AUGUST

EA190406 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 82

[Text] Comrade Yuriy Fokin, first deputy chairman of UNESCO in the Soviet Union [title as heard], returned to his country this morning, concluding a 4-day working visit to socialist Ethiopia. In a statement at Bole International Airport, Comrade Fokin said he had held extensive talks with Ethiopian Foreign Ministry officials on bilateral issues, current international issues, the UN General Assembly meeting scheduled to be held next September, the serious condition of world peace, war and disarmament. He said the consultations and discussions on bilateral issues will further strengthen future relations. He added that a delegation from socialist Ethiopia's Foreign Ministry will be going to Moscow to hold discussions on ways to further implement the decisions made during his talks.

KENYA

AIR FORCE REBELS CONTINUE TO SURRENDER

EA181654 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 18 Aug 82 p 24

[Text] Kenya Air Force rebels who had been hiding since the abortive coup on August 1 are continuing to surrender to the armed forces and police.

A police spokesman yesterday said the rebels at the rate of about one or two a day [sentence as published]. But he said he was not in a position to say how many rebels had surrendered by yesterday.

On Monday, a rebel who had been hiding in his parents' home at Githunguri surrendered to the armed forces at the KAF base in Eastleigh. Two others had earlier surrendered at the same base. They were said to have been taken there by relatives after President Moi extended the time for surrender.

Meanwhile the minister for culture and social services, Mr Stanley Oldititipitip, has said that the coup bid should serve as a big lesson to Kenyans who did not take President Moi's Nyayo philosophy seriously.

Addressing top ministry officials in his Jogoo house office, Mr Oldititipitip said the rebels have wanted to form a government of destruction. They could not have possibly built the Kenya we want, he added. He said no one would have been safe if the coup by the Washenzi had succeeded.

ODINGA FLEES TO UGANDA; MP'S LETTER REPORTED

EA181636 Nairobi THE NAIROBI TIMES in English 18 Aug 82 p 1

[By Mohamed Warsama]

[Text] Wanjare South/Mugirango MP Mark Bosire was turned back at the Kenya-Tanzania border while trying to flee Kenya after he had written a letter to the chief of general staff, Lt-Gen. J. Mulinge, hailing the August 1 coup attempt and seeking a high post in what he hoped would be a new revolutionary government.

In other developments, highly placed sources have told the NAIROBI TIMES that former Kenya People's Union president and one time Vice-President Oginga Odinga has secretly gone to Uganda apparently fearing arrest in the wake of last week's arrest of his son, Raila Odinga.

Sources say that Bosire, who was the secretary of the KANU Parliamentary Group, wrote his letter on the morning of the attempted coup, August 1, and then posted the half-page typewritten letter at Kisumu, on the same date. The sources said in the letter, which Bosire addressed to Your Excellency, Lt-Gen. Mulinge, the MP hailed the uprising by the Kenya Air Force rebels and assuming that it would lead to the establishment of a new military dominated government, purportedly requested from Gen. Mulinge certain favours and consideration.

But, according to the sources, when it later became clear that the attempted coup had failed and was quashed by forces loyal to President Moi led by none other than Gen. Mulinge, Bosire panicked and decided to flee on Monday, August 2, to Tanzania.

Sources say that on reaching the Kenya-Tanzania border post of Tarime, Bosire was turned back by Kenyan security forces and directed to return to Kisii. He was not then arrested.

Bosire then showed up at the KANU Parliamentary Group meeting held on Tuesday, August 10, under President Moi's chairmanship. According to his parliamentary colleagues, he looked uneasy and disturbed, but had not the slightest inkling that he was to be arrested after the meeting.

After the meeting was over, Bosire and friends went to the lobby for tea and it was while he was there that an assistant minister in the office of the president, Mr. Isaac Salat, passed by and told him that there were visitors waiting for him outside the building. It was 12:20 pm when Bosire walked out into the hands of the waiting security men who then whisked him away into custody. Sources say that investigations have been undertaken to see if Bosire had prior knowledge of the coup attempt, as his brother is an officer in the Kenya Air Force.

Meanwhile, it is understood from highly reliable sources that Odinga secretly left Kenya last Thursday for Kampala in neighboring Uganda less than 24 hours after his son, Raila, had been picked up by police from his office at the Kenya Bureau of Standards. It is not immediately known how he was able to cross into Uganda by road last week as his passport has lifted by the authorities late last month.

When the NAIROBI TIMES' William Onyango also contacted Odinga's personal assistant in his Kisumu office, he said that those spreading rumours in Nairobi that Odinga was in Uganda should go to Bondo one by one and see Odinga. He said it was up to the press to publish what they wished, but as far as they were concerned Odinga was in Bondo with his wife. He said only a watchman and a servant were at the Kisumu house. According to the post office Odinga's telephone in Bondo was temporarily out of service.

Sources close to the government yesterday said that there were no charges imminent against Odinga and that he had gone to Uganda of his own volition.

POLICE CHIEF: 159 DEAD FROM 1 AUG DISTURBANCES

EA181946 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Ben Gethi, has appealed to relatives who have already identified their dead to collect their bodies from the mortuary by noon Friday this week. The commissioner said that after this date any unclaimed bodies will be buried by the government as it was no longer possible to keep them at the mortuary, due to the health hazard posed by their storage.

In a press statement Mr Gethi also announced that 159 people had died from the 1 August disturbances. Of these he said 91 bodies had been identified and collected by relatives; 55 more bodies had been identified but were awaiting collection by relatives. The statement said that there were still 13 unidentified bodies at the mortuary.

SEYCHELLES

PRESIDENT RENE ADDRESSES NATION ON MUTINY

EA191258 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Victoria -- President Albert Rene of the Seychelles has given the first full official account of the mutiny in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

In a broadcast to the nation last night, after the rebellion was put down, he said the rebels had taken control of key installations. These included the radio station, where they were holding hostages, central police headquarters, the port and the cable and wireless office. He disclosed that the mutiny began at the main army camp at Union Vale, outside Victoria, and also had advanced on the international airport where the rebels were repulsed by government troops.

President Rene said he had negotiated with the rebels until it became clear that they were aiming to make the situation worse and [words indistinct]. He said that two small groups of mutineers are still at large and called on civilians to report any sighting of rebels to the authorities.

Earlier, the Seychelles news agency had said all the hostages seized during the army mutiny had been freed without harm. Radio staff contacted after the station was recaptured said the hostages numbered between 20 and 30, and not 200 as the rebels had claimed. The agency also said the situation was now calm and that the 24-hour curfew imposed after the mutiny broke out could be lifted today or tomorrow.

24-HOUR CURFEW LIFTED, AIRPORT REOPENED

AB191010 Paris AFP in English 0926 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Nairobi, Aug 19 (AFP) -- Authorities in the Seychelles have lifted the 24-hour curfew until 6 pm tonight following yesterday's crushing of an army mutiny on Mahe, the main island of the Indian Ocean republic.

Reports reaching here from the Seychelles capital, Victoria, said that the streets filled up rapidly as people rushed out to shop after being locked in their houses for two days.

The Pointe Larue International Airport, outside Victoria on Mahe, was also reported to have reopened to traffic.

GHANA

TWO PNDC MEMBERS, CABINET SECRETARY RESIGN

AB181810 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Two members of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], the Reverend Damuah and Mr Amartey Kwei, have resigned. An official statement just issued in Accra said the chairman of the PNDC has accepted their resignation and two new appointments have been made to the council. They are Anna Enims, marketing manager of the State Fishing Corporation and Mr Ebow Tawiah, chairman of the Interim Management Committee of the Maritime and Dockworkers Union. The PNDC has also accepted the resignation of Mr J.B. Kuffuor as PNDC secretary for local government. The chairman of the PNDC has expressed his personal appreciation of the services that they have rendered to the nation while in office.

RAWLINGS: 'DRASTIC' ECONOMIC MEASURES PLANNED

AB190739 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has emphasized that the council will soon take drastic measures to deal with the country's economic situation. This would mean that inevitably things would get very tough before there could be any improvement. He has, therefore, asked Ghanians to prepare themselves both psychologically and politically.

Speaking to Police PDC [People's Defense Committee] executives attending a 10-day course at Achimota, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said there is no way that the country can deal with exploitation unless the people unite to forge ahead. The PNDC chairman said it is necessary for Ghanaians to begin to see their problems in relations to the manipulations and programming of external forces whose interests are different from theirs. [Words indistinct] Ghana and other developing countries with past colonial experience, there is no way such countries can deal with exploitation but to unite in their fight against it. They must also learn how to effectively use their natural resources as a weapon to fight for their interest instead of allowing them to be controlled by others.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said there is too much intellectual capacity being wasted in the country which could be harnessed into creative fields. He asked Ghanaians not to allow themselves to be divided because it is the trick used to prevent Africans from achieving their aims of living in dignity. Ghanaians should therefore understand how industrial, economic and political situations relate to them and their problems.

LIBERIA

MONROVIA REPORTS DOE'S WELCOME IN WASHINGTON

AB172142 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The head of state, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has been welcomed to Washington by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. President Reagan expressed his pride for being able to welcome the Liberian head of state to the White House at the beginning of his 5-day official visit to Washington. Mr Reagan stressed that the two countries have a great relationship. Sources in Washington say the U.S. Government believes that the human rights situation in the country has improved. They particularly mention the release of political prisoners and the return of confiscated property. This is the Liberian head of state's first visit to Washington since getting into power.

NIGERIA

GOVERNOR URGES BULGARIA TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENT

AB171200 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Kaduna, Aug 17 (NAN) -- Governor Abba Musa Rimi of Kaduna yesterday urged the Bulgarian Government to implement the agreement signed in 1980 between them for the establishment of industries in the state. The governor who made the call when the Bulgarian ambassador in Nigeria, Mr Aleksandur Atanasov, paid him a courtesy call, said that his government had fulfilled its part of the agreement. He expressed the hope that the relationship between Kaduna State and Bulgaria would continue to be cordial.

NPP, NPN SUPPORTERS CLASH IN NIGER STATE

AB171529 Lagos NAN in English 1420 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Gawun (Niger), Aug 17 (NAN) -- Some people were seriously injured and several vehicles damaged when supporters of rival political parties clashed at Gawun, near Suleja, on Friday. An eye-witness told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the incident occured when supporters of a party returning from a rally tore the flag of the other.

The Niger assistant commissioner of police, Mr. E.E. Gbiwen, confirmed the story but said that no arrest had been made. He said that supporters of NPP [Nigeria People's Party] attacked NPN [National Party of Nigeria] supporters who were returning from a rally in the Vaba development area.

This was the second political clash in the state in the last five months. Three persons died in a similar clash in April and this led to the ban on activities and the use of party vehicles in the state for about three months.

SIERRE LEONE

ACTING PRESIDENT RECEIVES FOREIGN DELEGATES

SRV Delegation

AB172147 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The acting president, Mr S.I. Koroma, this morning received at State House a two-man delegation from the SRV led by Mr (Phons Bedou) who delivered a special message from the president of the State Council of Vietnam. Accompanied by an assistant director at the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr (Chua Ye Doc), the delegation also reviewed the situation in Southeast Asia, particularly in Kampuchea. Welcoming the delegation on behalf of President Stevens, the government and people of this country, acting President Koroma wished them a fruitful and enjoyable stay in this country and promised to deliver their message to President Siaka Stevens.

Iranian Delegation

AB180900 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Yesterday, Acting President Koroma received a three-man Iranian delegation led by the Iranian minister of petroleum, Mohammad Gharazi, with whom he discussed bilateral and international relations. Mr Gharazi outlined the basis of the Islamic revolution of Iran which he described as neither Eastern nor Western orientated. He informed acting President Koroma of Iran's readiness to transfer its technological experience in the exploitation of its oil resources to Muslim governments and the oppressed peoples throughout the world.

ANGOLA

COMMUNIQUE ON CPSU DELEGATION'S VISIT CITED

EA181248 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party and the CPSU have vigorously condemned the constant attacks by the South African racist regime against the sovereign People's Republic of Angola, particularly the occupation of part of Cunene Province.

The two parties' condemnation was expressed in the communique issued in Luanda the day before yesterday at the end of the visit to our country by a delegation of the CPSU Central Committee led by Yuriy Khristoradnov.

The persistent illegal occupation of Namibian territory and the delaying tactics of imperialism, trying to link the problem of the independence of the Namibian people with the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from our country, were also condemned by the two sides.

The CPSU delegation reiterated its solidarity with the Angolan-Cuban statement of 4 February this year.

During the Luanda talks, the two sides stressed that the cooperation agreements in force between the two parties and governments have been implemented with success on the basis of the (?treaty) of friendship and cooperation agreed upon in 1976 by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and late President Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto.

The Angolan side greatly appreciated the initiatives in foreign policy advanced by the CPSU and particularly by General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, aimed at saving mankind from the threat of the conflagration caused by a nuclear catastrophe, liquidating the hotbeds of tension and conflict on our planet and ensuring lasting and universal peace.

The MPLA-Labor Party and the CPSU (?unanimously) concluded that, on the basis of the common ideology of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism which guide the principles of the two parties, the relations of fraternal friendship, solidarity and cooperation which (?link) the two parties and peoples have been promoted and strengthened [words indistinct]

HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES IN CUNENE PROVINCE

Luanda Report

EA181140 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Units of the South African regular army deployed in occupied areas of Angola continue to carry out military operations in eastern Cunene Province, with the objective of reaching Huila Province.

Following racist actions launched about 2 weeks ago, which were recently condemned, heavy fighting is now taking place, mainly near Mulundo and (Cuvelai). This has been reported to the foreign press by military officers in Lubango, according to ANGOP.

The South African troops, confronted by the heroic resistance of our people in the west, have now swung to the east. As a result, the South African Air Force constantly is carrying out reconnaissance flights over the area.

On Saturday, the South African Air Force machinegunned military positions of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola in Cuvelai. According to the same sources, the racist forces are trying to cut off the road linking Cuvelai and Cassigna so they can later reach (Matola) which supplies electricity to Lubango and where thousands of displaced people from the occupied areas in Cunene are sheltered.

The current South African offensive, according to facts supplied to us, is being launched from Changonga and (Ongiva), occupied since August and where mechanized units of the South African Army are deployed.

The attacks by the Pretoria regime are now assuming very obvious proportions. This leaves us in no doubt as to the threat they represent to the security of peoples of South [as heard] Africa.

The occupation of Angolan territory by the running dog of imperialism in Africa is a stab in the back to the dignity of all Angolans and shows complete disregard for all those who fought to make Angola a sovereign state. It, therefore, calls for a rigorous and unequivocal response.

AFP Correspondent's Account

AB181758 Paris AFP in English 1640 GMT 18 Aug 82

[By Jean-Luc Porte]

[Text] Cahama, southern Angola, Aug 18 (AFP) -- The current South African advance into Angola's southern Cunene Province, next to Namibia, was stopped near the town of Cahama, which has become a vast underground fortress.

This small town lies to the south of Huila Province capital Lubango, on the same road as N'giva and Xangongo, which are held by South African forces. It has become a strategic link in the defensive positions of the Angolan Army (FAPLA).

A South African motorised infantry brigade is stationed less than 40 km (25 miles) away in Chipelongo, and the road joining the two places has become a no-man's land, the scene of frequent clashes, according to Lieutenant Francisco Gomes of the Angolan Second Motorised Infantry Brigade.

Cahama was destroyed by South African MiG [words indistinct] last year. The houses were either burnt out by phosphorous bombs or shattered by rockets, and any walls still standing are full of bullet holes.

Lying amid the ruins is wreckage from several aircraft. Among the rubble three poster-portraits stand upright, unscathed: those of former Angolan President Agostinho Neto, Cuban leader Fidel Castro and Soviet head of state Leonid Brezhnev. But few local people remain to admire them, since most of the inhabitants have fled to refugee camps further north.

Down the hill the odd vehicle moves across the semi-bush of the local landscape, but there is little other sign of human life.

Yet the picture is deceptive, for the local region is the operational base of a large FAPLA unit, a well-equipped force which so far has successfully resisted one of the most modern and battle-experienced armies in the world.

Thousands of Angolan soldiers are living underground in a zone covering several dozen square kilometres (miles). Armoured vehicles, radar, anti-aircraft defenses, troop carriers are all hidden out of sight. The attention to detail is such that the whole force melts into the bush.

The Angolan troops had to learn to live underground during the massive air raids in May and July, when little escaped the fury of the phosphorous and fragmentation bombs.

This correspondent saw damage caused by an air raid on July 21 which Pretoria had described as "Marxist propaganda."

South African reconnaissance flights take place most days, the pilots searching out Angolan military positions but on the watch especially for missile batteries.

Members of the South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) can be seen in the Cahama region, and according to some reports, a fairly large number of SWAPO soldiers are around here. A few Soviet advisers are also based in Cahama, but the Cubans are further north, forming a buffer defence line in case the South Africans try to push deeper into Angola.

UNITA OFFICIAL CITES READINESS TO TALK

AB181724 Paris AFP in French 1431 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Brussels, 18 Aug (AFP) -- Fernando Wilson dos Santos, UNITA information secretary, said in Brussels today that his movement has "unilaterally" decided to free 14 foreign nationals including a Swiss woman employed as a nurse by the International Red Cross.

The UNITA representative did not specify the date for the liberation of these 14 people -- 1 Swiss woman, 1 Argentine woman, 4 Spaniards, 3 Brazilians and 5 Portuguese -- but added that the final decision was made at the 5th congress of UNITA, which took place from 28 to 31 July near Mavinga, in Angola's Cuando-Cubango Province.

He also announced the "intensification of military operations" by UNITA "and warned countries and organizations whose citizens are on the side of the enemies." He also declared 10 of the country's 16 regions "to be war zones." According to him, these regions are under UNITA's control.

According to UNITA, these 10 regions are Cuando-Cubango, Moxico, Luanda, Malange, Cuanza Sul, Bie, Huambo, Benguela, Huila and Cunene. Three million people -- representing almost half of the population of Angola -- live in these areas.

Wilson dos Santos said according to information in UNITA's possession, the ruling MPLA-Labor Party is divided at the highest level the attitudes it should adopt toward UNITA. He said the majority of MPLA-Labor Party members are in favor of holding negotiations with his movement. He regretted that "the minority faction of the MPLA-Labor Party, which is controlled by Russians and Cubans," refuses to consider negotiations with UNITA. He added that "his movement hopes not to remain indefinitely engaged in guerrilla warfare," and that it is ready to negotiate with the MPLA-Labor Party. He further said that if the MPLA-Labor Party continues to refuse to negotiate with us, we will continue with the war until we are victorious in driving away all foreign forces."

The UNITA representative explained that the withdrawal of the Cubans -- 35,000 men according to them -- from Angola was not put as a "condition" for the opening of negotiations with the MPLA-Labor Party, but they have to leave before we can think of an agreement for the creation of a national union government."

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL SETS 'PRIORITY TASKS' FOR FRELIMO SESSION

EA181958 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Evaluation and discussion of subjects for the fourth congress and analysis of our country's economic and military situation are the main points on the agenda of the 10th session of the Frelimo Central Committee, which opened in Maputo today.

Speaking at the opening session, President Samora Machel referred to the importance of the subjects for the fourth congress and said they must be the guidelines for involvement by all our people in preparations for the meeting of our party's supreme organ.

The analyses of our country's economic and military situation will be made in parallel because, according to the president of the party, eliminating hunger and liquidating armed bandits are the two main tasks that must be carried out; they are priority tasks which go hand-in-hand. The economic and military situation was examined by the Permanent Political Committee at an enlarged meeting attended by the first secretaries of the provincial committees 7 through 9 July.

In his opening speech, President Samora Machel said that the Central Committee, as the party's supreme organ in the interval between congresses, also must discuss the above questions in greater depth and adopt adequate measures to allow us to move forward on the difficult but noble path of consolidating our socialist fatherland, annihilating the enemies of the revolution and achieving the well-being of the people.

Giving a brief account of events since the ninth session of the Central Committee, the president referred to the meeting with former collaborators of the colonial and fascist system; the meeting with the fighters in the armed struggle for national liberation; the celebrations for the 20th anniversary of the founding of Frelimo; and the seventh anniversary of the proclamation of national independence.

Referring to his efforts toward convening the 19th OAU summit, President Samora Machel said we are still motivated by the aim of maintaining unity on our continent and we will do everything to ensure that the OAU continues to be an instrument at the service of the African peoples, frustrating the attempts of imperialists and their local agents to destroy our continental organization.

On the regional level, the president mentioned the meeting of the frontline states in Maputo and said it is a step forward in the coordination of efforts for the liberation of southern Africa. He added that this meeting concluded that the imperialist-backed armed bandits are a new phenomenon in Africa, aimed essentially at destroying the revolutionary gains of the peoples.

President Somora Machel also referred to the South African Development and Cooperation Commission summit in Gaborone, which made positive advances and reinforced the common thinking of the countries of the region on the need to increase economic cooperation.

GOVERNMENT FORCES CAPTURE NINE GUERRILLA BASES

AB181908 Paris AFP in English 1901 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Maputo, Aug 18 (AFP) -- Mozambican forces have captured nine guerrilla bases and killed more than 30 rebels of the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance Movement (MNR) during the first half of this month, official sources said here today.

The official news agency AIM, citing a statement by "a military source", published a list of army operations carried out in four central and southern provinces between August 1 and 17. The agency report is the first official confirmation of a stepped-up campaign aginst the rebels, who are widely believed to receive material support from South Africa and who have dramatically expanded their operations since the beginning of this year.

During the past two months the MNR has reported [words indistinct] of attacks in the central province of Sofala, near the Indian Ocean port ot Beira, and there has been speculation they have been trying to cut the city off from the rest of Mozambique.

There was no confirmation here of MNR claims to have cut Beira's water supplies, but last week the rebels ambushed a train, killing 14 civilians and injuring more than 50 others.

The major operation listed in the AIM report was in the southern province of Gaza, where 15 rebels are said to have been killed when the army captured their base in Sumbulane district.

Another base captured was at Bala Bala, about 50 kilometres north of a major agricultural complex at Chokwe. The news agency said that more rebels had infiltrated into Gaza "with growing support from the South African Army stationed along the Mozambican border."

Earlier this month, the Mozambican forces reported that South African aircraft had carried out more than a dozen reconnaissance flights over this area during the first half of this year.

In all, the report listed four bases captured in Gaza, one in Hambane Province, two in Manica Province, and two in Sofala, both within a hundred kilometres of Beira. All near the road and rail links to Zimbabwe and Malawi.

The report on the recent fighting came soon after the ruling Frelimo Party began its regular biannual Central Committee meeting with a discussion of the economic and military situation in the country.

Opening the session, President Samora Machel said that the economic and military situation had to be considered jointly, because "eliminating hunger and elimination of the South African-supplied bandits are two principal tasks that go hand in hand."

AUTHORITIES TO INQUIRE INTO RUTH FIRST DEATH

EA181258 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Ruth First, a prominent intellectual in the South African liberation movement, died in Maputo yesterday. She was killed in a violent explosion when she opened an envelope in her office at the Center for African Studies at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.

Aquino de Braganca, director of the Center for African Studies; Dr (Brigitte) [name indistinct], an American national who is also a lecturer at the Center for African Studies; and (Pal Jordan), a South African social researcher; were with her when she died. Aquino de Graganca and (Pal Jordan) were injured, but they are out of danger. Another lecturer at the Center for African Studies, who was near the office, was not injured but was overcome by shock.

Mozambique authorities immediately launched an inquiry at the site of the explosion, which caused a great deal of material damage.

Commenting on the incident, a source in the Mozambique Security Services said it had characteristics similar to other incidents recently committed in the region that have proved to be the work of the South African secret services.